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AUTHOR Weber, David O.
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ABSTRACT

In 1970, the Farm Workers Health Service, which was begun in 1961, included 33 decentralized medical clinics which served 24,000 seasonal farm workers and their families in 17 counties during the peak harvest months. Seventeen clinics offered year-round general medical services, and in 12 counties free medical and dental care was available to farm worker families under fee-for-service project arrangements. The 26 California migrant health projects also offered nursing clinics, public health nursing, aide and environmental health services, maternity service clinics, and health education. Of the \$1.2 million from the U.S. Public Health Service, nearly \$1 million directly supported medical and environmental services. The State provided another \$100,000 for local project activities, and the counties subsidized about 50 percent of the services to migrants within their areas as a local contribution. Nearly 100,000 men, women, and children received medical care under the program during its 10 years of operation. Some 132 dedicated professional and paraprofessional health workers staffed the 26 projects. This report discusses the conditions which made the program necessary, the families who received its services, and the daily routine of the nurses, aides, sanitarians, and doctors. The 26 projects, their sponsor, location, services and operation seasons are listed. (NQ)

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Health for the Harvesters

**Decade of Hope
1960—1970**



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Health for the Harvesters

**A Ten-Year Report by the
Farm Workers Health Service
Bureau of Maternal & Child Health
California State Department of
Public Health
Human Resources Agency
December, 1970**

The 1970 harvest season has marked the tenth year in the life of the Farm Workers Health Service of the California State Department of Public Health.

Since its rudimentary beginnings in 1961, when 11 of California's 42 major agricultural counties shared a scant \$75,000 in state funds, the program has grown to include 33 decentralized medical clinics serving 24,000 seasonal farm workers and their families—some 66,600 patient visits in 1970—in 17 counties during the peak harvest months.

Seventeen clinics offer year-round general medical services, and in 12 counties free medical and dental care is available to farm worker families under fee-for-service project arrangements. Nursing clinics, public health nursing, aide and environmental health components augment most projects.

The program this year is financed by \$1.2 million in federal funds from the U.S. Public Health Service—nearly \$1 million directly supporting medical and environmental services. The state provides another \$100,000 for local project activities, and the counties themselves subsidize about 50 percent of the services to migrants within their areas as a local contribution.

Of course, poor health is only one of the many interwoven problems which beset the seasonal agricultural worker and his family.

When the crops ripen, growers are in desperate need of workers for their fields and orchards. But in most farm counties, the peak harvest demand is followed by long months of inactivity for all but a handful of farm laborers. The money—usually not very much—earned during the summer dwindles. Large families grow hungry, illnesses need attention. Rain and cold seep through thin walls—the anxieties and depressions of poverty build. But there is little or no industry to provide alternative jobs.

Thus many farm workers become migrants. They follow the crops from county to county across California, journey north to Oregon and Washington, return to winter at home bases in Southern California, Texas, Arizona and Mexico. About 160,000 migrants work on California farms during the peak harvest months of May through October.

In some important ways, migrancy is a curse. By definition they are on the move, hard to reach when they need help, forced to accept what is immediately available, ineligible because of requirements for the health and welfare benefits of the poor.

In addition, most come from a different culture, traditions, speak a language incomprehensible to most Americans. Often they have little understanding of concepts as vector control, disease transmission, guards against the spread of germs, and the like. Pulled out of school at an early age to help support the family, come, their educational levels are low.

Doctors and hospitals are located in cities far from these workers' rural homes. An emergency medical need can be an almost insurmountable problem. Even if Spanish—provided one even has access to a



*Faustina Solis—Farm Workers Health Service
Social Work Consultant, 1968-70
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In some important ways, migrancy increases their problems. By definition they are on the move, hard to locate, hard to help when they need help, forced to accept whatever shelter—if any—is immediately available, ineligible because of residency requirements for the health and welfare benefits open to the local poor.

In addition, most come from a different culture, share different traditions, speak a language incomprehensible to the vast majority of Americans. Often they have little understanding of such subtle concepts as vector control, disease transmission, sanitary safeguards against the spread of germs, and the effects of pesticides. Pulled out of school at an early age to help with the family income, their educational levels are low.

Doctors and hospitals are located in population centers far from these workers' rural homes. An emergency telephone call can be an almost insurmountable problem if one speaks only Spanish—provided one even has access to a telephone. Food



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Social Work Consultant, 1963–68
Director, 1968–70*

and automobile repairs cost more for the stranger unfamiliar with local rates. And a proud man is reluctant to seek official assistance—especially when that reluctance is reinforced by intricate snarls of red tape and a history of harassment by governmental bureaucracies.

The fiercely self-reliant migrant, who ranges far in search of work, is the last to queue up for welfare.

Things are not much better for the resident farm worker. The nature of his occupation is seasonal, so—while he may be paid relatively well at harvest time—his entire yearly income is likely to depend on those few months' labor. Every able-bodied family member is pressed into service in the fields, leaving the youngest children, frequently, under the care of a brother or sister hardly older than they. How many accidents occur in these homes or in the fields due to lack of proper child supervision can only be guessed.

While the farm worker is earning money, of course, he cannot usually qualify for welfare or Medicaid benefits. Often, in fact, he is actually losing money by choosing to work. And the conditions under which he labors are only beginning to be brought toward the level accepted as basic by workers in every other American industry. Drinking water, toilet and hand-washing facilities are still lacking in many fields, though enforcement of regulations has reduced their number. But how can 80 women crewing five tomato harvesting machines be expected to use only two field toilets during a single 15-minute work-break?

For years the assumption has been made that the rural poor could improve the condition of their lives if only they would unite into a politically significant, cohesive group. The migrant, to be sure, is disenfranchised and powerless. But is the resident farm worker any better off? These families are scattered over wide areas, bludgeoned into apathy by malnutrition, chronic sickness and lifelong social and economic discrimination, forced to compete against one another for too few jobs, suspicious and resentful of their own neighbors—not to mention the migrant who arrives to skim off the economic "cream."

During the decade 1957-66, California—the nation's richest farm state—increased its annual agricultural cash receipts from \$2.8 billion to \$4.1 billion. Last year, the average annual income for the farm worker families living in California's 23 migrant

housing centers was \$3,019—and the average for those with three or more children!

Even though operating at the limits of the Farm Workers Health Service project, we treat only about 15 percent—15 percent of California's migrant population. A great many more, up to 80 percent, benefit at some time from our services—field and camp inspections—preventive health and sanitation component. But these are hardly the only services in placency.

What, then, do we consider the significance of the first ten years of operation?

First, the program has made people aware that seasonal farm workers do have special needs.

Second, even though the services are not always available. For the first time, people—beginning to receive the care they require. The Health Service program has proved that health care can be provided to the rural poor in an accessible form. Accessibility is geographical, cultural and economic. It will be utilized.

Third, in developing the program we have identified problems which would not otherwise be identified. New things about the people we serve, and old ways of doing things have failed.

Finally, the Farm Workers Health Service has had a real influence on the methods in which health care is delivered to all Americans. The program has increased the use of auxiliary personnel—the clinic aides and health aides drawn from the recipient population will rely more and more on these individuals to interpret good health practices, to translate from one idiom to another, and to perform certain functions which detract from the full participation of health professionals.

The program has pointed up ways in which health care can be decentralized—brought to the people and at the times in which they are most needed. The program, increasing numbers of medical students have been and will continue to be introduced

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the Farm Workers Health Service projects estimate that they can
treat only about 15 percent—15 percent!—of the medical needs
of California's migrant population. A greater percentage, perhaps
up to 80 percent, benefit at some time from the environmental
services—field and camp inspections—provided in counties with a
sanitation component. But these are hardly figures for com-
placency.

What, then, do we consider the significant achievements of our
ten years of operation?

First, the program has made people aware that migrants and
seasonal farm workers do have special needs.

Second, even though the services are meager and limited, they
are available. For the first time, people—human beings—are be-
ginning to receive the care they require. And the Farm Workers
Health Service program has proved that if health care services
are provided to the rural poor in an accessible way—when that
accessibility is geographical, cultural and psychological—they
will be utilized.

Third, in developing the program we have uncovered many
problems which would not otherwise be known. We are learning
new things about the people we serve, and discovering why the
old ways of doing things have failed.

Finally, the Farm Workers Health Service program has exerted
a real influence on the methods in which health care is and can
be delivered to all Americans. The program has pioneered in the
use of auxiliary personnel—the clinic and sanitation and nursing
aides drawn from the recipient population. In the future, medicine
will rely more and more on these invaluable liaison workers to
interpret good health practices, to translate from one language
and idiom to another, and to perform important non-medical
functions which detract from the full productiveness of health
professionals.

The program has pointed up ways in which health care serv-
ices can be decentralized—brought to the people in the places
and at the times in which they are most needed. Under the pro-
gram, increasing numbers of medical students and internes have
been and will continue to be introduced to that forgotten patient

pool, the isolated rural poor.

Moreover, the program has pioneered in forging a new relationship between the physician and the nurse. In the future, increasing responsibility will and must be delegated to the latter as a nurse-practitioner—leaving the doctor free to devote his precious skills to the acute illnesses and injuries of patients.

The decade 1961–70 has been a decade of progress, of achievement, of renewed hope for California's seasonal farm workers. Nevertheless, much remains to be accomplished. Farm worker families continue to make do in unsafe, ramshackle dwellings, to camp in automobiles and hastily improvised shelters, to suffer the state's highest occupational disease and infant mortality rates, to live with untreated chronic illness, malnutrition, painful dental problems, lack of hospitalization and inadequate prenatal care.

It must be remembered that ill health disables men for work—throws them onto the welfare rolls whether they wish it or not. Similarly, preventive care and early treatment of disease saves money. A child whose tuberculosis is properly cared for will not develop meningitis and become a cripple—a lifelong ward of the county's taxpayers.

Each year since 1961, the Farm Workers Health Service has compiled an exhaustive annual report. With data painstakingly assembled by the staffs of the individual projects, we have painted the plight of the migrant farm worker family and the efforts of our program.

But it is hard to convey a real feeling of what we are doing, and why, and for whom in a dense collection of statistical tables. The problems recited above have been noted year after year. Tables delineating numbers of clinic visits, hours of clinic sessions, types of conditions treated, percentages of camps inspected have been published dutifully each fiscal year. Do these columns and paragraphs still retain any impact?

Nearly 100,000 men, women and children have received medical care under the Farm Workers Health Service program during its ten years of existence. Some 132 dedicated professional and paraprofessional health workers staff the 26 projects in California—the oldest and most extensive migrant health program in the United States.

In this, our decade report, we will try to focus on some of those people. Through words and pictures, we hope to convey the flesh

and blood of the migrant health program in actions which have made it necessary, the services, the observations of those who have it grow, the daily routine of the nurses and and doctors who offer real care and concern.

The opinions and the methods reported representative and at the same time not representative of California projects offer a spectrum of philosophy, however, are made up of people—people with the limits of their resources and their humanity,

We hope that reality emerges in the way that follows.



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it grow, the daily routine of the nurses and aides and sanitarians
and doctors who offer real care and concern to real people.

The opinions and the methods reported are, of course, both
representative and at the same time not representative. The Cali-
fornia projects offer a spectrum of philosophy and service. All,
however, are made up of people—people straining, within the
limits of their resources and their humanity, to help people.

We hope that reality emerges in the words and images which
follow.



A Century in California Farm Labor

1870 California agriculture assumes its modern pattern: large-scale land ownership (516 men own 9 million acres); crop specialization (the San Joaquin Valley boasts the world's largest wheat farm, and new irrigation projects begin to give fruit orchards their increasing agricultural importance); and reliance on cheap seasonal labor, usually by non-European racial minorities (the Chinese, barred from the gold mines by a series of discriminatory laws and thrown out of work by completion of the trans-continental railroad, take up the dominate role in California farm labor).¹

1882 Under various pressures, including that of organized labor, Congress passes the first Chinese Exclusion Act. Chinese laborers are prohibited from entering the United States for 10 years. Re-enacted in 1892.

1888 The first Japanese workers are imported into California's orchards and sugar-beet fields. By 1909, some 30,000 are employed as farm laborers during harvest season.²

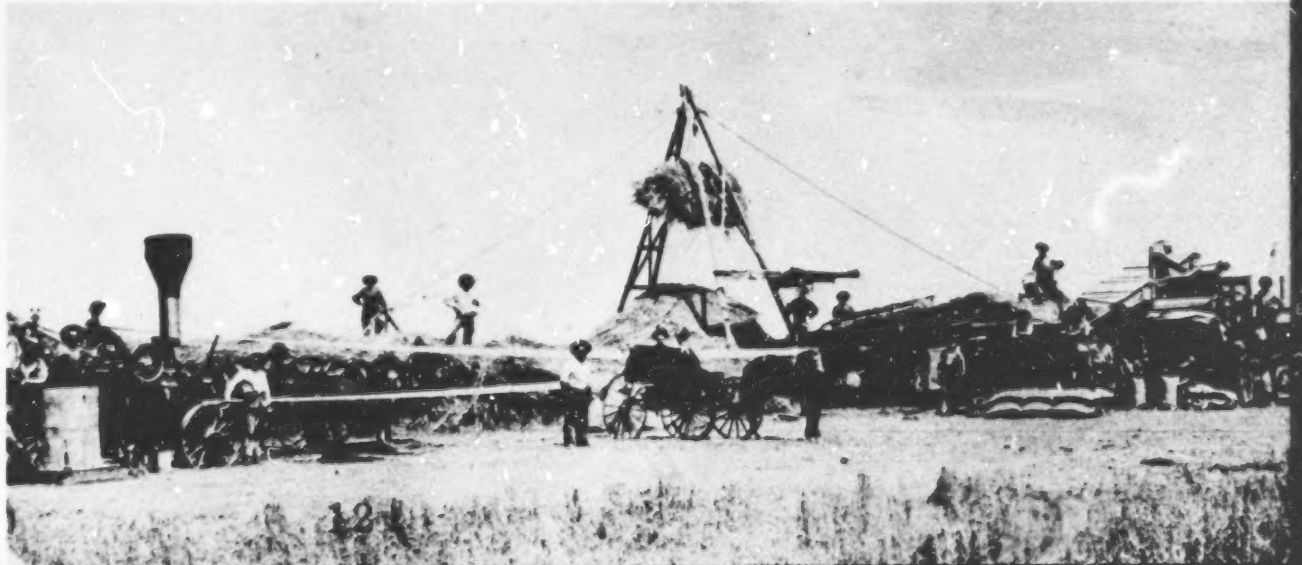
1890 Armenians, Portuguese, Italian, and small tenant farmers, they specialize in citrus, chokes, and grapes respectively.³

1907 The first Hindus are imported to the Imperial and Imperial Valleys. By 1915, there are thousands of Hindus working seasonally in vegetables and citrus.

1909 President Theodore Roosevelt's Commission recommends that Congress pass legislation for housing, employment on an annual basis, and postal savings banks to encourage thrift among workers. No action.⁵

1913 The Alien Land Act is passed, prohibiting farm ownership by Orientals. Re-enacted in 1921.

1915 The U.S. Commission on Immigration and Naturalization regularizes employment, feasible plan for the future.



A Century in California Farm Labor

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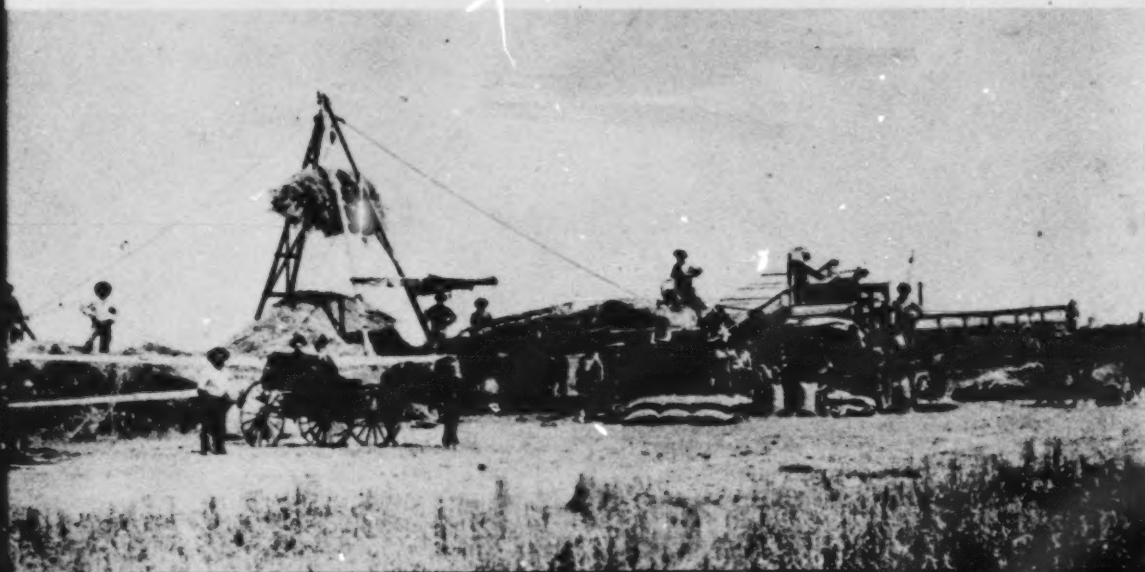
1890 Armenians, Portuguese, Italians begin to arrive. As small tenant farmers, they specialize in raisins, dairy and artichokes, and grapes respectively.³

1907 The first Hindus are imported into the San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys. By 1915, there are an estimated 10,000 Hindus working seasonally in vegetables and cotton.⁴

1909 President Theodore Roosevelt's Country Life Commission recommends that Congress pass legislation to provide good housing, employment on an annual basis and establishment of postal savings banks to encourage thrift among migrant farm workers. No action.⁵

1913 The Alien Land Act is passed to prevent increasing farm ownership by Orientals. Re-enacted in 1919.

1915 The U.S. Commission on Industrial Relations calls for regularization of employment, feasible plans for providing trans-



portation and establishment of sanitary working men's hotels with branch postal savings banks on behalf of migrant agricultural workers. No federal action.⁶

1917 The Immigration Act of 1917 prohibits further entry of Hindus. Already they own or lease 45,000 acres of California rice lands.⁷

1918 Labor shortages, war, the Mexican revolution and new immigration laws encourage importation of Mexican farm workers. By 1920, 50 percent of the state's migratory labor force is Mexican.⁸

1923 Fears of restrictions on Mexican immigration cause first importation of Filipinos to work crops. During the 1930s, some 35,000 Filipinos are employed in seasonal farm labor.⁹

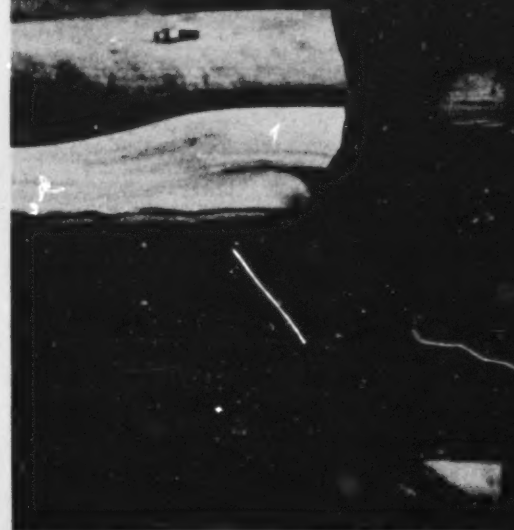
1931 Federal laws drastically restrict immigration by Mexicans. Thousands, including U.S. citizens, are involuntarily "repatriated" because they are on relief.¹⁰

1933 First of more than 350,000 Midwest "Dust Bowl" refugees—the Okies—begin to arrive in California. State-run labor camps house 15,000 unemployed men. Oversupply of workers severely depresses wages. Hunger, disease, social unrest are rampant.¹¹

1935 Congress passes measure offering free one-way transportation for Filipinos wishing to leave U.S. Return is barred.

1938 Agricultural Workers Health and Medical Association (AWH&MA) is established cooperatively by U.S. Farm Security Administration, California Department of Public Health and California Medical Society. The AWH&MA provides free health and medical care to desperately poor migrant farm workers and families.

1939 John Steinbeck's controversial novel *The Grapes of Wrath* focuses national attention on the problems of California farm workers. U.S. Farm Security Administration begins construction of 14 new migratory labor camps in state. Congressional committees open investigations into California agricultural conditions.



1942 Braceros—temporary foreign—begin to arrive in California fields from agency executive order designed to meet shortage of domestic farm labor.¹²

1944 Federal legislation restricts AWH&MA to foreign contract workers. They no longer have access to low-cost health care.

1947 Congress, pleading economy, repeals AWH&MA and turns over all federally-operated health care to private growers' associations and local health departments. Braceros receive health coverage under state plan—which will not apply, until 1952, to cultural workers.¹⁴

1949 National concern again turns to migrant health. Typhoid fever, dysentery, and pneumonia claim the lives of 200 in the San Joaquin Valley.¹⁵

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1942 Braceros—temporary foreign contract farm laborers—begin to arrive in California fields from Mexico under an emergency executive order designed to meet the acute wartime shortage of domestic farm labor.¹²

1944 Federal legislation restricts services under the AWH&MA to foreign contract workers. Effect: domestic migrants no longer have access to low-cost health or medical coverage.¹³

1947 Congress, pleading economic pinch, abolishes the AWH&MA and turns over all federally operated farm labor camps to private growers' associations and local housing authorities. Braceros receive health coverage under state workmen's compensation plan—which will not apply, until 1959, to domestic agricultural workers.¹⁴

1949 National concern again turns to California when diarrhea and pneumonia claim the lives of 28 farm workers' babies in the San Joaquin Valley.¹⁵

1951 Aroused Fresno County grower, health and community groups join to establish Westside medical clinics in five locations for farm workers and families. County infant mortality rate drops 50 percent in first three years of clinic operations! ¹⁶

1960 At request of the governor, California State Department of Public Health launches investigation into "Health Conditions and Services for Domestic Seasonal Agricultural Workers and Their Families in California." Findings: They suffer more ill health, use medical services less, and have higher sickness and death rates than any other socio-economic group. Barriers to good health: hospitals and health facilities are far from their homes, services uncoordinated; residence requirements, transportation and medicine costs and hours of service exclude them; language, culture and pride often operate against preventive care and cloud understanding of good health practices.

1961 On basis of report, the government. State Senator Virgil O'Sullivan introduces legislation authorizing funds for creation of a special department of Public Health to promote seasonal agricultural workers—the birth of the Service. Fourteen agricultural counties expand programs to include services for migrants.

1962 Federal Bill S-1130 provides and coordinate a unified statewide health workers. Public Law 87-692—the Migrant grants for family clinics for domestic agricultural workers.

1963 Report of the Governor's Agricultural Housing reveals that 80 percent of farm housing is grossly substandard housing, if any at all.



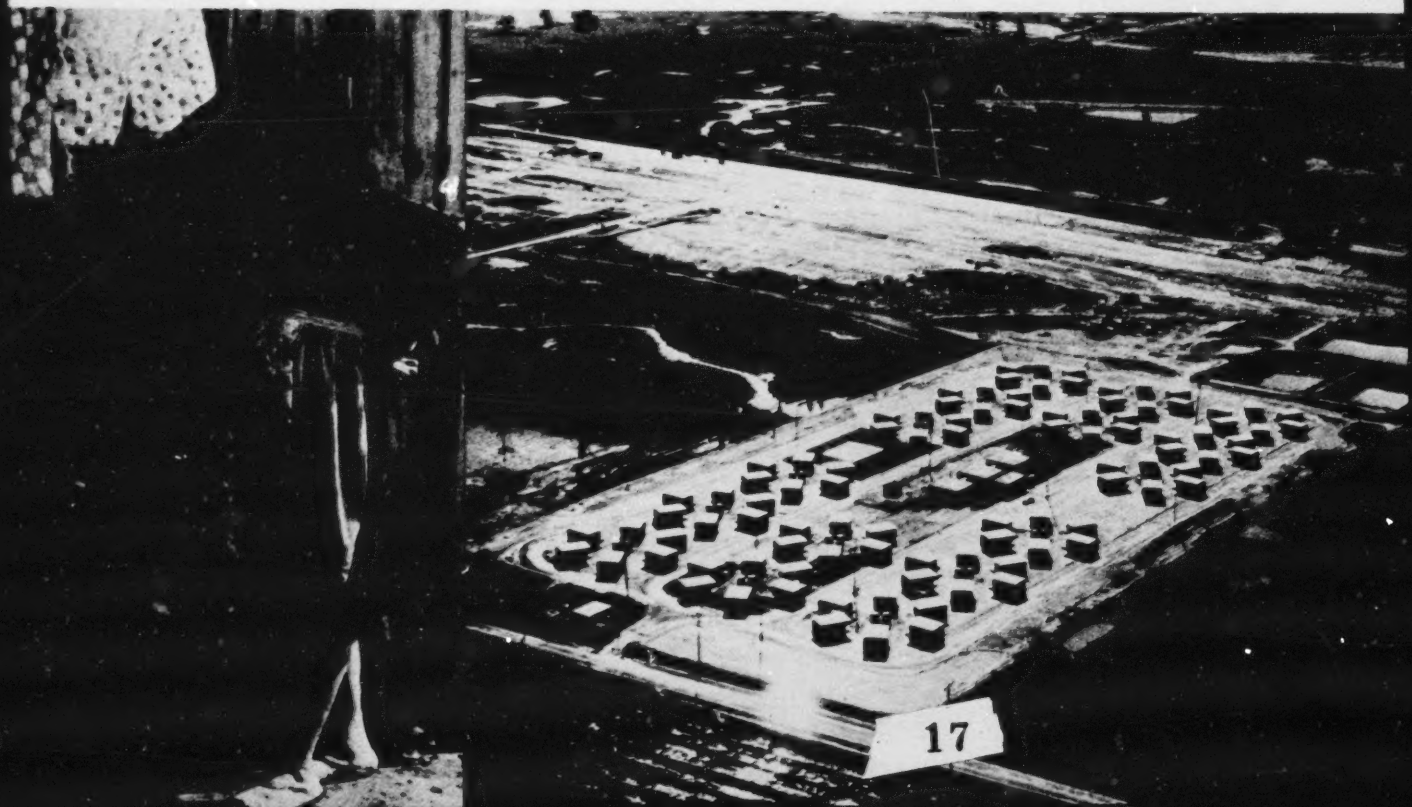
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1961 On basis of report, the governor seeks legislative ac-
tion. State Senator Virgil O'Sullivan introduces Senate Bill 282,
authorizing funds for creation of a special staff in the State De-
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1962 Federal Bill S-1130 provides budget funds to develop
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1963 Report of the Governor's Advisory Commission on
Housing reveals that 80 percent of farm worker families live in
grossly substandard housing, if any at all—one-third with open



privies, nearly one-third without bathing facilities, one-quarter lacking even a kitchen sink with running water. Median annual income \$2,207—250 percent below statewide average.

1964 Public Law 78—the latest of the statutes which had extended the “emergency” bracero program for 22 years—is terminated. At its height, the bracero program brought nearly half a million men into the United States from Mexico each year during the harvest season.

1965 The California Migrant Master Plan is designed under provisions of Title III-B of the Federal Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. First temporary seasonal “flash peak” migrant family housing center is erected in one week in the San Joaquin Valley. Twenty-four more centers to follow in five years. Centers provide adequate housing, child day-care, education and health services at a cost of \$1 a night per family while migrants are working in California—but must turn away nearly twice as many needy families as they can accommodate.¹⁷

1966 California Rural Legal Assistance is funded by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity. Operating in 17 counties, CRLA offers free legal assistance to the rural poor, especially farm workers, including advice regarding schools, jobs, housing and government. Nearly 26,000 clients served directly in 10,351 cases handled during 1967–68.¹⁸

1968 California State Department of Education, under Public Law 89–750, develops master plan for compensatory education, interstate coordination, record transfer, teacher training and health services for children of migrant farm families. Some 29,000 migrant children benefit from 38 cooperative projects organized by 176 school districts in 27 counties. Farm Workers Health Service provides program design, consultation, in-service training and evaluation of health component.¹⁹

1969 The California Migrant Master Plan is transferred from the State Office of Economic Opportunity to the Department of Human Resources Development (formerly Department of Employment). More than 2,600 families—13,800 people—find temporary shelter, health, sanitation, education and child care in 23 state migrant housing centers. Another 4,337 families, however, must be turned away.²⁰

1970 With Farm Workers Health group day-care programs for children in 10 housing centers are expanded on a demonstration basis to include infants under the age of 2. Such pioneer programs, from before dawn until after nightfall—all day long—allow children the freedom to do so, confident that whatever age, will receive skilled care and attention.

1971



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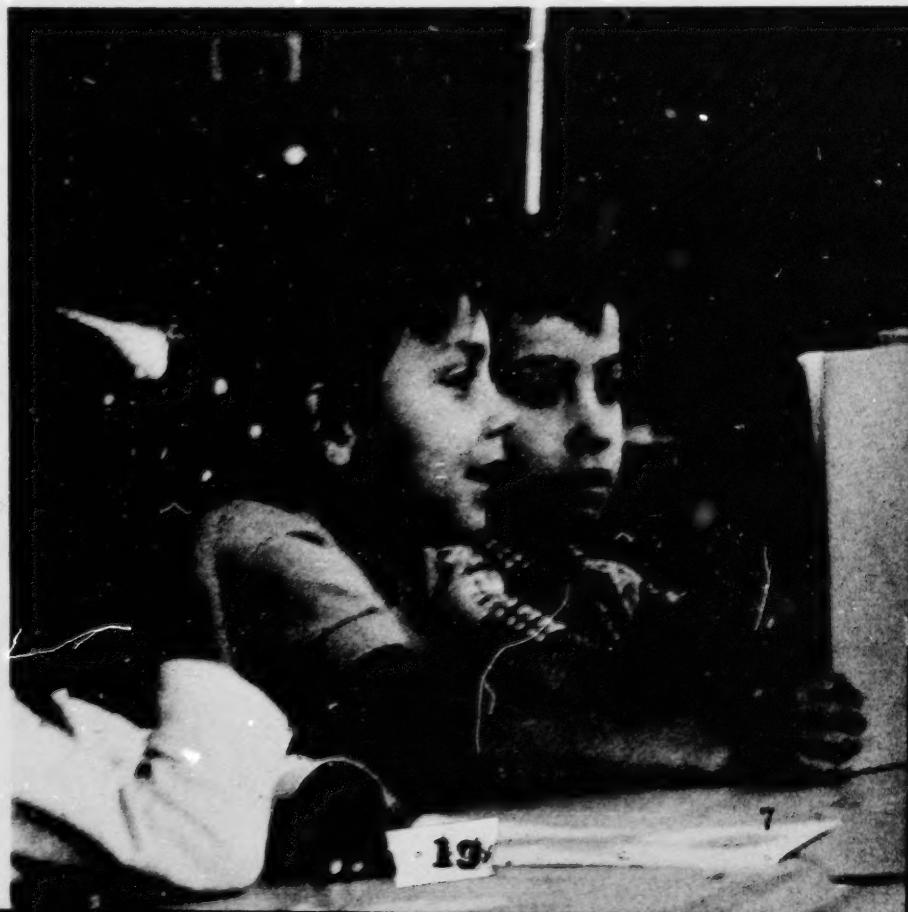
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tment of Education, under Pub- an for compensatory education, ansfer, teacher training and ant farm families. Some 29,000 cooperative projects organized s. Fa.m Workers Health Service ation, in-service training and

Master Plan is transferred from ortunity to the Department of rmerly Department of Employ- 13,800 people—find temporary on and child care in 23 state 4,337 families, however, must

1970 With Farm Workers Health Service support, OEO group day-care programs for children in three California migrant housing centers are expanded on a demonstration basis to include infants under the age of 2. Such pioneering all-day care—often from before dawn until after nightfall—allows mothers who wish to work the freedom to do so, confident that their children, of whatever age, will receive skilled care and supervision.

1971



Really Nice People

Gary McNamara is a tall, cheerful pre-medical graduate with a ruddily youthful face and prematurely greying hair. For the past six years he has been a sanitarian for the Merced County Health Department. During the summer months he is responsible for migrant health sanitation in all the 700 square miles of Merced County lying west of the San Joaquin River.

June 10, 1970 is an unseasonably temperate day for California's Central Valley—low 80's, light breeze, bright sunshine. Cool weather has delayed tomato ripening locally, but now the harvest season is getting underway. Later in the summer McNamara will have to inspect canneries, packing sheds and the fields themselves for compliance with toilet and hand-washing regulations of the Food Crop Growing and Harvesting Law—but right now, on this day, his main concern is the 25-odd farm labor camps in his territory, into which the migrants are beginning to move.

About 10 a.m., McNamara—in the company of a visitor—sets out from the county health department office in Merced to visit the Los Banos Migrant Housing Center, 37 miles away. First, however, he calls at the county Planning Department in Merced.

"Has a trailer permit been issued in the name of Rodriguez?" he inquires.

The clerk checks, says no.

"I was afraid of that," nods McNamara. He confers with the clerk about the procedures for obtaining a permit to install a house trailer. The clerk hands McNamara an instruction form and explains that the permit cost is 10 cents per square foot of trailer space. The instruction form, in English, looks fairly complicated.

"Does anyone here speak Spanish?" McNamara asks.

"Nah. Wish I did, though," the clerk smiles. "It sure would come in handy sometimes."

"Yeah. I can't either," McNamara agrees. He returns with his visitor to the car.

"The Rodriguezes are a local family, Mexicans," he amplifies as they drive west. "They're really nice people. Mother and father and eight children. This winter the family's been on welfare, but now that the season's starting he'll go back to farm work. He'll make less money that way than he would if they stayed on welfare. But these people are proud. They're not lazy. He'll migrate

later on, too. This is their home base. Right in the county housing project at South Dos Palos. It's a bit unusual in the sense that most migrants don't stay in one place long enough to qualify for public housing. McNamara bought a house trailer and they're planning to stay in it the way he tells it, he's buying 11 acres from a farmer and pay it off at his convenience. I don't know how long. The trailer's about 35-by-10. Ten people can live in it. McNamara explained to him he had to get a permit, but in Spanish—except for the kids. At 10 cents per square foot, \$35.00. I don't think they've got that kind of money. McNamara lapses into silence.

At the Los Banos Camp, McNamara makes a thorough inspection. He exclaims at the cleanliness of the child day-care center. He makes a note to get the outside privies need replacement, and to get the inside ones. He recommends that springs be installed in the beds to insure that they will close. He checks the grounds to make sure weeds have been removed—since they were in the previous inspection. He knocks at the door of the wooden houses and politely asks whether everything is all right.

In the second unit, a very pretty young woman lives inside. She apologizes shyly for the mess. The kitchen and side rooms are made, the clothing is clean, the scrubbed, clean eating utensils stacked on the central table in the kitchen-living room. The house is fine, but a screendoor would be nice. McNamara asks if she is pregnant and she says she is. McNamara asks if she knows the migrant health project maternity clinic in San Jose. She says she does and plans to attend next Tuesday. McNamara says she is from Holtville, near El Centro. McNamara says the first time she has come with her husband. McNamara thinks the camp is very nice. McNamara's friendliness and intelligence.

Observing the "5 Millas Despacio" sign at the main gate. He comments wryly on the sign after heated community debate, was located on the road from the county dump. He drives sev-

Really Nice People

cheerful pre-medical graduate with prematurely greying hair. For the past year for the Merced County Health Department he is responsible for all the 700 square miles of Merced and San Joaquin River.

A reasonably temperate day for California, 80's, light breeze, bright sunshine. Tomato ripening locally, but now the summer. Later in the summer McNamara's series, packing sheds and the fields with toilet and hand-washing regulations and Harvesting Law—but right now the concern is the 25-odd farm labor camps where migrants are beginning to move.

—in the company of a visitor—sets out to the Department office in Merced to visit the Health Center, 37 miles away. First, how many in the Planning Department in Merced. "Issued in the name of Rodriguez?"

McNamara. He confers with the clerk for obtaining a permit to install a trailer. McNamara an instruction form and a fee of 10 cents per square foot of trailer. English, looks fairly complicated. "Spanish?" McNamara asks.

The clerk smiles. "It sure would come

McNamara agrees. He returns with his

family, Mexicans," he amplifies as they are really nice people. Mother and father for the family's been on welfare, but now he'll go back to farm work. He'll stay here as long as he would if they stayed on welfare. They're not lazy. He'll migrate

later on, too. This is their home base. Right now they're living in the county housing project at South Dos Palos, which is of course unusual in the sense that most migrants don't stay at any one place long enough to qualify for public housing. But they just bought a house trailer and they're planning to move into that. The way he tells it, he's buying 11 acres from a man who says he can pay it off at his convenience. I don't know." He shakes his head. "The trailer's about 35-by-10. Ten people in two rooms. I explained to him he had to get a permit, but they hardly speak any English—except for the kids. At 10 cents a square foot, that's \$35.00. I don't think they've got that kind of money. . . ." He lapses into silence.

At the Los Banos Camp, McNamara conducts a quick but thorough inspection. He exclaims at the spotless kitchen in the child day-care center. He makes a note that worn toilet seats in the outside privies need replacement, and detects several leaks. He recommends that springs be installed on the toilet doors to insure that they will close. He checks the camp sewage pond to make sure weeds have been removed—a problem noted in the previous inspection. He knocks at the doors of two occupied plywood houses and politely asks whether everything seems all right.

In the second unit, a very pretty young girl invites McNamara inside. She apologizes shyly for the mess. The beds in both partitioned side rooms are made, the clothing hung, the cement floor scrubbed, clean eating utensils stacked neatly by the sink, the central table in the kitchen-living room cleared. She says everything is fine, but a screendoor would be nice. McNamara observes that she is pregnant and asks if she knows about the weekly migrant health project maternity clinic in South Dos Palos. She says she does and plans to attend next Tuesday. She speaks English well, says she is from Holtville, near El Centro, and that this is the first time she has come with her husband to Merced County. She thinks the camp is very nice. McNamara is impressed by her friendliness and intelligence.

Observing the "5 Millas Despacio" sign, he wheels out through the main gate. He comments wryly on the fact that the camp, after heated community debate, was located directly across the road from the county dump. He drives several miles east and pulls

over beside a weed-grown cluster of stucco buildings—a former bracero camp. The buildings are deserted. "Gee, it doesn't look like they're going to open at all this year," he exclaims in surprise. "If they are, they've sure got an awful lot of work to do."

The next stop on his itinerary is the county office in Los Baros, where he usually spends a half-day each week. But first he detours into the local county housing project. Pretty pastel houses sit on trim lawns. He walks into the manager's office.

"You know the Rodriguezes?" he asks after some friendly banter. "They've bought a trailer and they're going to be moving out of the South Dos Palos project."

"That's what they told me," the manager nods. She is a gregarious white-haired woman. "I'm going to hate to lose them. They're among our best tenants."

"I don't see how they're going to manage, with all those children in only two rooms. I don't think they can afford the permit fee, either. Could they stay on in the project?"

"Sure, I wish they would."

"So do I," McNamara mutters. "I'm going to go out there and talk to them this afternoon."

McNamara and his visitor eat lunch. Afterwards they drive south, paralleling irrigation canals which wind along the base of parched brown mountains. A few miles outside Los Baros they turn off the highway and thread a dirt track—an orchard of ripening apricots on one side, an open field of sprouting cotton on the other. At the end of the drive is a labor contractor's camp—capacity 125 single men. The camp has only been open for three days, and there are just 26 men staying there now. McNamara takes a cursory look at the cookhouse kitchen, assures that food is procured from sources under inspection, tells the woman in charge to keep the lid on a galvanized garbage pail filled with flour. He says he'll come back later, when the camp is full. Before leaving he glances in at the dormitory. A few young men lounge impassively on musty mattresses.

"Our big problem in this county is that most of the camps were designed for braceros—single men," he says. "There just isn't very much housing for migrant families. The camps aren't suitable. And the housing situation this year is really serious."

As if to illustrate, he pulls over at a compound of abandoned wooden buildings. "Hm. Doesn't look like this one's going to open either," he muses. The buildings, constructed in dormitory style,

have makeshift doors clumsily cut into the partition these off for families," he explains too well. The partitions only went eight feet high. "You can hear everybody else in the whole place snoring and crying. . ."

He bounces over the rutted driveway to a verdant field, a low rambling house is seen. "That house was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright for his visitor."

The highway to South Dos Palos winds through the Here and there a stately heron perches on a branch. McNamara recalls that most of this rice area was acquired from its Japanese-American owner during the war. It was acquired cheaply by his non-Japanese grandfather.

The unincorporated community of South Dos Palos has a post office, a couple of stores and a few frame houses. It is inhabited primarily by Mexican-Americans in the 30's to work the cotton, but cannot support a mechanized operation.

"The people here are poor as church-goers," but they're real community-minded. Through community organization the residents have a fire, potable water system, are conducting a program to keep school children busy during the winter. They initiated several self-help housing projects. There are four incredibly dilapidated wooden shacks.

"Those are owned by one of our top cotton growers. I almost lost my job when I condemned them. They're occupied now." He shrugs.

The South Dos Palos project resembles a small town. McNamara approaches the detached unit in the project. He lives, he begins to fret. "I hope the oldest son is speaking English. The mother can't understand me into the driveway. I hope Mrs. Rodriguez is here."

At the door he is met by the 12-year-old son who is cradling a toddler with a bottle. Five sisters peer at the strangers curiously. Let's see if we can get from the television set ("You just passed up a chance to win a gleefully taunts a contestant). Mrs. Rodriguez says—she is working in the fields with McNamara makes a brief attempt to explain.

of stucco buildings—a former deserted. "Gee, it doesn't look like a year," he exclaims in surprise. "A awful lot of work to do."

the county office in Los Banos, every week. But first he detours to the project. Pretty pastel houses sit on the manager's office.

he asks after some friendly conversation and they're going to be moving soon.

the manager nods. She is a greasy woman going to hate to lose them.

to manage, with all those children. How can they afford the permit for the project?"

"I'm going to go out there and

have lunch. Afterwards they drive through the fields which wind along the base of the mountains. A few miles outside Los Banos they find a dirt track—an orchard of ripening fruit. A field of sprouting cotton on the edge of a labor contractor's camp—this one has only been open for three months. The woman staying there now, McNamara says. She has a house kitchen, assures that food inspection, tells the woman in charge to get a bin of garbage pail filled with trash, when the camp is full. Before long, the camp is full. Before long, the camp is full. A few young men lounge

is that most of the camps were like this one? he says. "There just isn't very much here. The camps aren't suitable. And they're really serious."

at a compound of abandoned houses. It looks like this one's going to open soon. It's constructed in dormitory style,

have makeshift doors clumsily cut into their sides. "They tried to partition these off for families," he explains, "but it didn't work too well. The partitions only went eight feet up, so you could hear everybody else in the whole place talking and eating and snoring and crying. . ."

He bounces over the rutted driveway to the road. Across a verdant field, a low rambling house is set in a clump of trees. "That house was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright," he informs his visitor.

The highway to South Dos Palos winds through green rice fields. Here and there a stately heron perches on one leg in the water. McNamara recalls that most of this rice acreage was confiscated from its Japanese-American owner during World War II, and acquired cheaply by his non-Japanese grower-neighbors.

The unincorporated community of South Dos Palos consists of a post office, a couple of stores and a collection of crumbling frame houses. It is inhabited primarily by blacks. They came in the 30's to work the cotton, but cotton-picking is now a mechanized operation.

"The people here are poor as church-mice," McNamara comments, "but they're real community-minded." He notes that through community organization the residents have recently acquired their first potable water system, are conducting a clean-up campaign to keep school children busy during the summer, and have initiated several self-help housing projects. He drives slowly past four incredibly dilapidated wooden shacks.

"Those are owned by one of our top county officials," he says. "I almost lost my job when I condemned them. But he's moved people back in. They're occupied now." He shakes his head.

The South Dos Palos project resembles that in Los Banos. As McNamara approaches the detached unit in which the Rodriguezes live, he begins to fret. "I hope the oldest daughter is home. She speaks English. The mother can't understand a word." He turns into the driveway. "I hope Mrs. Rodriguez doesn't cry!"

At the door he is met by the 12-year-old daughter, Elena, who is cradling a toddler with a bottle. Five younger brothers and sisters peer at the strangers curiously. *Let's Make a Deal* is blaring from the television set ("You just passed up \$400!" the announcer gleefully taunts a contestant). Mrs. Rodriguez is not home, Elena says—she is working in the fields with her husband today. McNamara makes a brief attempt to explain the need for and

cost of a trailer permit to Elena. She nods and seems to understand, but McNamara is doubtful as he leaves.

"I'm just going to have to come back out here on Tuesday night when the clinic's in session," he mourns. "They're never going to figure all this out." He turns on the ignition. "I'll tell you one law I'd like to pass. They shouldn't let anyone come into this country to work without knowing English. At least some rudimentary, elementary English."

He heads down the road a mile and turns off into a muddy clearing. Used lumber is piled about, and rusty tin cans have been collected into heaps. At the rear of the lot a long white house trailer sits on concrete blocks. A plowed field stretches away behind the trailer.

"This is it," he says. He begins to prow around. "They hauled it up from Fresno over the weekend." He finds a deep hole covered by a tarpaulin. "They've got their cesspool in, I see. Made out of wood." He shakes his head and chuckles sadly. "Illegal as hell!" He paces about. "You tell me," he suddenly challenges his visitor, "should I approve that cesspool or should I condemn it and make them put in a septic tank?"

"How much would it cost for a cheap septic tank?"

"Three hundred dollars. Minimum. They're just never going to get their hands on that kind of money!"

He walks around in silence for a few moments, then begins to mumble. "See? All they want is a little independence. You saw how nice that housing project was. But they don't like taking welfare. They want to be on their own." He squints across the field. "I don't know, can they make a living on 11 acres? Rodriguez says the guy who owns the land is going to let him pay it off whenever he's got a little cash to spare. But I know that guy, and he just isn't that good-hearted. He's making some money in there somewhere. I haven't figured it out yet."

McNamara climbs back into his car and drives to Dos Palos. He points out the single local industry, a textile mill which produces auto floor mats. It employs 75 people. A few self-help houses are going up on back streets—once again opposite the garbage dump. "You see what a great job government does in picking sites!" he grimaces.

Outside town he stops at a white frame farm house. Beside it sags a row of unpainted cabins, ancient, which are rented to farm workers. He finds the young woman who owns the place out back



She nods and seems to understand as he leaves.

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white frame farm house. Beir's it ancient, which are rented to farm man who owns the place out back





gardening. He introduces himself and explains that a water sample taken the previous week showed contamination. A complaint about the water had been relayed from the county welfare department.

"We all use the same well," the woman shrugs. "Nobody around here has been sick. None of my family's been sick."

McNamara examines the well-pump. "What I'll do," he says, "is take another sample. But if that proves bad you'll have to chlorinate." He explains the simple procedure.

Later, in the car, he adds: "These are places. We're constantly getting complaints from people. I tell them what they should do, these cabins for welfare clients to live in. Rent checks. But they say no, people have what they want."

He stows his water sample in the back of the car. "Why everybody here isn't doubled up. It's not accurate. . . . It was throwing cultures all over the place."

He heads back toward Merced. "The people out of places, they'll just have to live there. So when we make housing inspections we have to check a condition is, whether they can live with the wiring, the plumbing, the structure, when we tell the landlord to fix things up, he won't do it. Even if we take court action, it's the same result. Either things are brought to court or housing is condemned and the people have to live. Which can be pretty difficult around here. That's when you get 15 people in a bedroom house—like a phone call we got from the county."

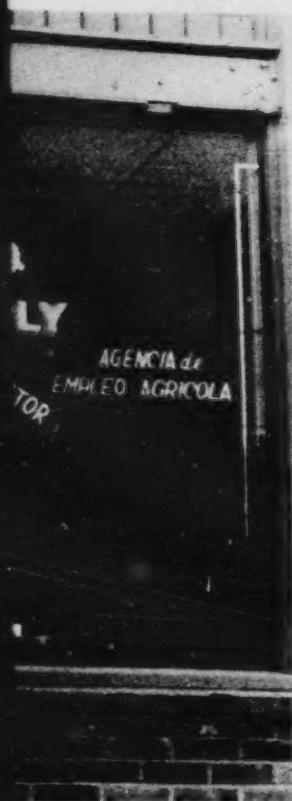
At 3 p.m., McNamara parks in front of the apartment. "Well, I can't say it hasn't been busy," he declares. "We get busier, though. I finished up the other two camps to be opened in 110 miles. I usually put on about 500 a year when I'm not in different offices."

He walks inside to his desk, where the visitor has spent writing reports, answering telephone calls, and low-up work. He settles into his swivel chair.

"You certainly spent an awful lot of time here," the visitor comments.

"Yeah, well, the Rodriguezes are special. Sometimes you just get involved with people like them. Such nice people. They're really trying to make a life out of it."

He becomes thoughtful for a moment. Then he leans back and kicks his feet up on the desk. "A low, conspiratorial voice to his visitor. He cups his hand behind his head. "I'm going to get a cesspool!"



Later, in the car, he adds: "These are really pretty crummy places. We're constantly getting complaints from the welfare people. I tell them what they should do, then, is stop approving these cabins for welfare clients to live in. Refuse to give them the rent checks. But they say no, people have a right to live where they want."

He stows his water sample in the back seat. "I can't figure out why everybody here isn't doubled up. If that last sample was accurate. . . . It was throwing cultures all over the test-tube!"

He heads back toward Merced. "The trouble is, if we move people out of places, they'll just have to go to worse conditions. So when we make housing inspections we have to decide how bad a condition is, whether they can live with it or not. We look at the wiring, the plumbing, the structure, everything. Of course, when we tell the landlord to fix things up, we can't really make him do it. Even if we take court action, it all winds up with the same result. Either things are brought to standard or else the housing is condemned and the people have to find a new place to live. Which can be pretty difficult around here. Practically impossible. That's when you get 15 people living together in a one-bedroom house—like a phone call we got this morning."

At 3 p.m., McNamara parks in front of the county health department. "Well, I can't say it hasn't been a typical day," he declares. "We get busier, though. I finished early today because I expected those other two camps to be open. We covered about 110 miles. I usually put on about 500 a week—in the four days when I'm not in different offices."

He walks inside to his desk, where the remaining hours will be spent writing reports, answering telephone calls and doing follow-up work. He settles into his swivel chair.

"You certainly spent an awful lot of time on that one family," the visitor comments.

"Yeah, well, the Rodriguezes are special, I guess. I don't know, sometimes you just get involved with people's problems. They're such nice people. They're really trying to better themselves."

He becomes thoughtful for a moment. Then suddenly he grins, leans back and kicks his feet up on the desk. "Heck," he says in a low, conspiratorial voice to his visitor. His smile broadens and he cups his hand behind his head. "I'm going to approve that cesspool!"

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Journal

Stanislaus County, California, June 26, 1970. Early morning spatters of rain, high overcast, Midwest humidity in air. Full-leaved trees line San Joaquin River and sloughs.

9:30 a.m. Arrive Westley Farm Labor Center to meet Mrs. Irene Griffin, camp nurse for Stanislaus Migrant Health Care Program. "Office of Health" sign hangs over door of wood frame building with peeling paint—formerly a garage. Inside is large room with blue-painted cement floor, long leather couch and three chairs, scale, curtained examination alcove with sink and medicine cabinets, two large wooden desks at far end. Yellow walls are hung with health posters in Spanish and English. "El autobus dental estara en el campo el dia 22 de Junio," reads largest poster, which shows Greyhound bus. Mrs. Griffin is bandaging cut forehead of small, sobbing boy. She is pleasant-faced woman with swept-back brown hair, earrings, pink blouse, black-and-white checked skirt and sandals. She projects air of good-humored competence. Greetings exchanged.

9:40 Mrs. Griffin telephones nearest physician—one of four in Patterson, six miles down road—to make immediate appointment for little boy to have sutures and tetanus shot. She ascertains, using broken Spanish, that mother has transportation and knows where to go.

9:50 "Sorry to keep you waiting," she says to visitor. "Sometimes it gets a little hectic around here. Let's go down to the dental bus."

Large, conventional-looking bus is parked beside camp laundromat shed. Children sit gaily, well-behaved, on long bench along outside wall of shed. Inside bus, youthful dentists in sandals and sportswear, and pretty young hygienist in Bermuda shorts, exchange banter. Drills whine. Man alights from bus in short-sleeved shirt, slacks and tennis shoes. He is Dr. Merle E. Morris, professor of pediatric dentistry at University of California Medical Center, San Francisco. UC, with Migrant Education funding, sponsors two \$80,000 mobile dental clinic buses which travel through San Joaquin and Salinas Valleys in summer offering free preventive and restorative care for children living in farm labor camps. Bus is staffed by six graduate dentists, three junior students, one licensed hygienist and one senior student hygienist. Laundry shed



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June 26, 1970. Early morning
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Education funding, sponsors two
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student hygienist. Laundry shed



houses two portable dental chairs for exams, bus has four chairs and full equipment for extractions and fillings. One dentist and hygienist have gone ahead to Patterson camp—next stop for bus—to conduct preliminary screening exams and take X-rays.

"We're going to stay an extra day," Dr. Morris tells Mrs. Griffin. "Gee, things are looking a lot better here this year than last, though. You know little Miguel, the boy in the wheelchair? He only had three cavities. Last year his teeth were terrible!"

Dental exams often reveal other health problems and bus staff always turns over duplicate records to camp nurses. Mrs. Griffin notes that county medical society has picked up bill for expensive root-canal job referred from mobile clinic.

"We refer everything we find," Dr. Morris says. "We have to do follow-up, or else we're missing the boat in our program. It's surprising how much a little thing like this, fixing up children's teeth, can make in their whole future lives. It can change the way they perform in school, how they're accepted by their classmates and society . . . not to mention making them healthier and making them feel better."

"Did Virginia help you out?" Mrs. Griffin asks about 16-year-old girl who served as volunteer interpreter and errand-girl for clinic.

"She sure did," Dr. Morris beams. "These volunteers are what really makes or breaks our program."

"She says it was so interesting she wishes she could go with you to the other camps. Her mother said it would be all right."

"Well, that would be great!" Dr. Morris exclaims. "We could use her—I'll work on it!"

10:10 On way back to office, Mrs. Griffin stops at nearby trailer to arrange dental evaluation appointment for child. Door-step conversation is halting but productive. "I often get a good feeling and real rapport out of these one-to-one talks," she comments, "even if I'm speaking English and they're speaking Spanish. We work together to understand each other."

10:15 Strolling through camp, Mrs. Griffin explains local migrant health project, which relies on nurses and aides for preventive medical screening and routine treatments.

"When the family arrives, we offer the father and mother a TB skin test, a Wassermann, hemoglobin, urinalysis, take the blood pressures and ask a lot of questions on family health history. That may be the last time we'll see Pop. We screen the children closely, working with the school nurses. Once a month there's a well-baby

clinic, with immunization and physical exams. We've been trained to do Pap smears routinely, evening clinics, and if we suspect any of them to a physician. During the year we have health classes and show health films from time to time. If the weather is not so good I take it outside and show them in the back of the house. That gets a good response. And of course we practice good health practices as I go along."

10:25 Visit camp day-care center. Meet some, clean-cut young child psychology graduate. Observe story hour. Story told in Spanish and English. As a circle of 3-year-olds respond boisterously to the story. 100 children between ages of 2 and 5 with help of three Neighborhood Youth Corps workers from the community. Children often arrive at the center at 8:30 a.m. until breakfast and classes start, then return from fields at 4 p.m. Thomas shows the garbage piled in front of center and board.

"The garbage company refuses to make a week," he complains. "It's in court now. They won't give us the windows and screens we need. That's dangerous, kids and jagged glass." Outside drinking fountain in playground. "They won't come out and fix it. They say there would only get broken again. They wouldn't make exceptions out here if they needed the work this year."

11:15 Mrs. Griffin drives to Patterson camp where she saw doctor for pre-natal check-ups. "I've been here a lot of times until 6 or 7 p.m.—and I stay on clinic nights. I stay to meet the people coming in the day. We tried keeping office hours. The idea is to be around when the people need the doctors. The doctors here are beautiful. They do a nice job. One is always on call. There are two of them, but I've only been able to get two years, so I usually refer people to Modesto. I ask her about a prescription. "I took a couple of pills but I've picked up most of what little I know. I know a lot of people, so it's not always grammatically correct. I go to two of two local pharmacies to have prescriptions filled."

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These volunteers are what

wishes she could go with
aid it would be all right."
Morris exclaims. "We could

s. Griffin stops at nearby
pointment for child. Door-
ative. "I often get a good
one-to-one talks," she com-
d they're speaking Spanish.
other."

Griffin explains local mi-
nurses and aides for pre-
treatments.

the father and mother a
n, urinalysis, take the blood
family health history. That
screen the children closely,
month there's a well-baby

clinic, with immunization and physical exams by a pediatrician.
We've been trained to do Pap smears routinely on the women at
evening clinics, and if we suspect any other problems we refer
them to a physician. During the year we give medical self-help
classes and show health films from time to time. If the turnout's
not so good I take it outside and show the film on the side of a
house. That gets a good response. And of course I try to teach
good health practices as I go along."

10:25 Visit camp day-care center. Meet Len Thomas, hand-
some, clean-cut young child psychology graduate who is director.
Observe story hour. Story told in Spanish and English alternately,
as circle of 3-year-olds respond boisterously. Center cares for up
to 100 children between ages of 2 and 5 with staff of five teachers,
three Neighborhood Youth Corps workers and 11 aides recruited
from community. Children often arrive at 5 a.m., sleep on nap-
time cots until breakfast and classes start, go home when parents
return from fields at 4 p.m. Thomas shows visitor around, noting
garbage piled in front of center and boarded windows.

"The garbage company refuses to make more than one pickup
a week," he complains. "It's in court now. The housing authority
won't give us the windows and screens we're supposed to have.
That's dangerous, kids and jagged glass." He points to the single
outside drinking fountain in playground. "It's broken, and they
won't come out and fix it. They say there's no point because it
would only get broken again. They wouldn't be so quick to make
exceptions out here if they needed the workers in the harvest this
year."

11:15 Mrs. Griffin drives to Patterson to pick up three women
who saw doctor for pre-natal check-ups. "I work sliding hours,"
she says, "a lot of times until 6 or 7 p.m.—and even later, of course,
on clinic nights. I stay to meet the people who can't come in dur-
ing the day. We tried keeping office hours, but it doesn't work.
The idea is to be around when the people are." She meets her
passengers. "The doctors here are beautiful," she says. "They do
a nice job. One is always on call. There are two dentists in Pat-
terson, but I've only been able to get two appointments in three
years, so I usually refer people to Modesto or Turlock." In Spanish
she asks about a prescription. "I took a course in medical Spanish,
but I've picked up most of what little I know from talking with
people, so it's not always grammatically correct." She stops at one
of two local pharmacies to have prescription filled.



Interstate cooperation is still poor, though. "Last year I received only one family planning referral from Texas and one report of a Class II Pap smear from Southern California. I wrote several letters

7:10 Mrs. Griffin returns to office. Between some 30 camp residents will call on her for include bandaging children's scrapes, as require immediate attention from physician and dental appointments, making house mother and child to doctor's office in Pasadena will observe vary from minor insect bites swollen leg in icewater), to respiratory illnesses (she makes quick house call to drug prescription for refill), to occupational of lower back pain in men, reported by the Sprain described by victim's wife thus: "Big She will also advise a woman confused by of county Crippled Childrens Services, a woman who apologizes, "Escribo muy mal"

"Most of them, once they learn and ca
thing is done in a certain way, they'll fo
isn't easy to sell them, though. In many
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inter. Menu: enchiladas, Spanish
strawberry parfait. Mrs. Griffin,
y. On impact of migrant health
less diarrhea among babies now.
ss impetigo. Anemia's way down.
rious health problems all around."
oor, though. "Last year I received
l from Texas and one report of a
California. I wrote several letters

to public health departments in Texas, but I didn't get any response at all. It'd be nice to hear what happens to these things, you know—if anything does. That's why we're so busy in California. They save up all their health problems for us."

1:10 Mrs. Griffin returns to office. Between now and 5 p.m., some 30 camp residents will call on her for aid. Her activities will include bandaging children's scrapes, assessing conditions which require immediate attention from physician, arranging medical and dental appointments, making house visits, and driving a mother and child to doctor's office in Patterson. Conditions she will observe vary from minor insect bites (she soaks little girl's swollen leg in icewater), to respiratory illnesses, to epileptic convulsions (she makes quick house call to pick up anti-convulsant drug prescription for refill), to occupational illnesses (two cases of lower back pain in men, reported by their wives, and a serious sprain described by victim's wife thus: "Big Jesse has a fat foot.") She will also advise a woman confused by document requirements of county Crippled Childrens Services, and fill out forms for a woman who apologizes, "Escribo muy mal."

2:20 Enroute to Patterson: "Do farm workers have more illnesses than other people?" she muses. "Well, they tell me themselves they do. After all, they work hard, they get poor food, they don't rest, they neglect themselves—because when the work's in, they have to do it!

"Most of them, once they learn and can be sold on why something is done in a certain way, they'll follow through with it. It isn't easy to sell them, though. In many ways the men are more receptive than the women. You know, there's an old saying in public health that if you teach a man you're educating one person, but if you teach a woman you're educating a whole family. Well, that's not always true with the Mexican culture. There it's the man who makes the decisions. He's the one who'll send his wife in to get medicine. You've got to get through to Dad or you're in trouble.

"We have to be careful, though, to demonstrate things they can do themselves—and with things they can use in their own homes. If you put on a bandage you don't say, Well, you have to have a sterile four-by-four! You say a clean piece of cloth will do as well. They have enough pressure on them already that you don't have to put more on.



"They're really hard-working people. Three in the morning to make tortillas for the day. The man gets up at five to go to work. When they come in they'll be in the field 12 hours a day. Of the lazy Mexican with the sombrero pul... is really a misconception!"

3:30 Mrs. Irma Perez, clinic aide, returns from Modesto, 16 miles away. She is strikingly beautiful with large dark eyes, delicate features, black hair in a bun and tied with flowing white scarf. She is the mother and husband who works for crop-dusting. She has lived in camp 14 years. As clinic aide she spends most of each day driving people to the clinic, translates for and shepherds them through the process.

"I enjoy it a lot," she says. "I like to see the children and help them. They all know me around here. In the afternoon I make calls here to remind parents to bring their children and be sure they have a way to get to the clinic. Children who're staying home sick are told to come to the office, but if they don't see the nurse, the people won't come in. But when they have a problem, they come to my house and ask me questions or ask me to take them to the hospital. That makes me feel real good, when I can help them."

3:50 Sheriff's wife, who is coordinating the health programs at local school, and who is helping to raise money for camp hospitalization. Fund, established through such social activities as bake sales, provides pool of money from which to borrow when they need hospitalization but the wife tells Mrs. Perez to be sure to bring her children.

4:05 Len Thomas stops in to report that the clinic and Aurora seem to function better at present. Girls are hyperactive, hostile, definitely need some kind of professional help. Mrs. Griffin agrees, notes that she has already consulted with pediatrician. Later, she says, she will prepare mother for questions she will be asked. Thomas adds. Parents merely ignore the situation given up as "crazy."

4:15 Mrs. Griffin delivers prescription and when she encounters Virginia Romo.



"They're really hard-working people. The woman'll get up at three in the morning to make tortillas for the whole family for the day. The man gets up at five to go to work. When the tomatoes come in they'll be in the field 12 hours a day. The old stereotype of the lazy Mexican with the sombrero pulled down over his face is really a misconception!"

3:30 Mrs. Irma Perez, clinic aide, returns from daily trip to Modesto, 16 miles away. She is strikingly attractive young matron with large dark eyes, delicate features, black hair pulled back into bun and tied with flowing white scarf. She has 3-year-old daughter and husband who works for crop-dusting service in Patterson. She has lived in camp 14 years. As aide for past two years, she spends most of each day driving people to Modesto, where she translates for and shepherds them through various agencies.

"I enjoy it a lot," she says. "I like to share people's problems and help them. They all know me around the hospital. In the afternoon I make calls here to remind people of their appointments and be sure they have a way to get there. And I see if the children who're staying home sick are taking their medicine. I watch the office, but if they don't see the nurse's car out in front, people won't come in. But when they have emergencies they come to my house and ask me questions or ask me to drive them to the hospital. That makes me feel real good, when people ask for me."

3:50 Sheriff's wife, who is coordinator of federally-funded programs at local school, and who is helping organize dance next evening to raise money for camp hospital fund, pays friendly visit. Fund, established through such social affairs as dances and bake sales, provides pool of money from which residents may borrow when they need hospitalization but cannot pay. Sheriff's wife tells Mrs. Perez to be sure to bring her husband to dance.

4:05 Len Thomas stops in to report that 5-year-old twins Dora and Aurora seem to function better at day-care center when separated. Girls are hyperactive, hostile and disruptive. "They definitely need some kind of professional evaluation," he says. Mrs. Griffin agrees, notes that she has already made appointments with pediatrician. Later, she says, she will make home-call to prepare mother for questions she will be asked. Home life seems bad too, Thomas adds. Parents merely ignore twins, whom they have given up as "crazy."

4:15 Mrs. Griffin delivers prescription to nearby house. On way back she encounters Virginia Romo.

"Well, it's all set," Mrs. Griffin exclaims. When bus goes to Patterson camp, Virginia can commute each day from home. But when it moves to Empire camp, she will be housed in local college dormitory with other girls staffing UC project. Same arrangements will apply when bus goes further south, to Merced. Dr. Morris will assume expenses.

Virginia's eyes sparkle with excitement, but she smiles shyly.

4:25 Two women—one elderly, one young, haggard and very pregnant—meet Mrs. Griffin outside office door. Elderly woman's son, 15, received blow on head in fight day before. Mrs. Griffin makes appointment with doctor for early next morning.

"When are you going to see the doctor?" she asks pregnant woman.

Woman is noncommittal, avoids Mrs. Griffin's efforts to set firm date for visit to county hospital maternity clinic. Later Mrs. Griffin explains, "Last year her two children got infectious hepatitis and were treated at the county hospital. They sent her a bill for \$784. It's on a deferred payment basis, and I've told her not to worry, that they can pay a little bit whenever they can—if they can. But she doesn't like to have that hanging over her head, which is understandable. Now she's reluctant to go to the clinic. She's RH-negative, and she's going to abort, no doubt. She lost a baby last year when she was working in the tomato fields. Harvester shook it right out of her. She was told not to get pregnant again, but when she went home to Texas some quack informed her an IUD would cause cancer. So she didn't take any precautions at all. Now she's in her fifth month and she should definitely get an evaluation and have the arrangements made for the hospital, but she uses the excuse that she can't get anyone to watch her children at seven in the morning when she has to leave. . . ."

4:35 During lull Mrs. Griffin checks over day's log, which serves as basis for project statistics.

"It goes against the grain for a nurse to diagnose, you know" she comments, "but I have to sometimes, to make sure what's being reported is as accurate as possible. Otherwise there's not a true picture of what the conditions are."

She makes entries in family history folders which she keeps on health of every camp resident.

5:10 Mrs. Griffin rests on couch, momentarily without callers. Evening has turned sunny and hot. "I'll probably get busy again



soon," she says. "From now until around in who've been working. You'll notice here today. Except two women did come for their husbands. But that's why I try to the first day they're here." She draws deep the state's getting its money's-worth in this

5:20 Visitor bids goodbye. As screen phone rings. On sidewalk outside, sun-bro in battered stroller is approaching "Office

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soon," she says. "From now until around seven the people come
in who've been working. You'll notice I didn't see many men
here today. Except two women *did* come in to make appointments
for their husbands. But that's why I try to screen the men carefully
the first day they're here." She draws deep breath. "Well, I think
the state's getting its money's-worth in this program."

5:20 Visitor bids goodbye. As screen-door slams shut, tele-
phone rings. On sidewalk outside, sun-browned woman with baby
in battered stroller is approaching "Office of Health."

Honor and Honesty

"... Alienated from the larger community around them, the migrant poor have had to come to terms with the violence of poverty. And harassed too often by police, welfare workers, indifferent bureaucrats, predatory employers and entrepreneurs, and sometimes even by those who come to help, the migrant poor have also come to recognize the subtle violence of luxurious ranch-type farm homes set against the background of tents and packing boxes . . .

"When the poor discover that even hard work provides no escape from the institution of poverty, they may react with physical violence which even if it offers no solution, at least permits the dignity of action. For many of the poor, all that we have left them is hope through violence, and we must ask ourselves whether we have the moral right to remove from people their last remaining hope. . . ."

Dr. Virgil Gianelli is a bluff, peppery 59-year-old Stockton internist who for the past four years has served as chairman of the Migrant Health Committee of the San Joaquin Medical Society. The Society sponsors one of California's most ambitious and most successful migrant health projects—and when Dr. Gianelli wrote those words in the introduction to last year's annual project report, some people in the county were upset.

"Well, I think I survived that one," he grins from behind his half-rim glasses. Dr. Gianelli has curly grey hair and a face that sits quite comfortably with his Italian ancestry. "My introduction disturbed some individuals. They said I was 'advocating violence!' Hell, I was doing no such thing. I was just trying to point out that the violence in our society is of two kinds—and that a man who starves to death is just as much a victim of violence, and just as dead, as a man who is shot!"

Dr. Gianelli is lunching this noon in Stockton with one of the project's clinic physicians—a handsome, dapper general practitioner of Filipino descent, Dr. Nicanor Bernardino—and with a visitor.

How, the visitor asks, did Dr. Gianelli become involved with special problems of farm workers?

"Well, back in 1955," he replies, "Old Man Stockton started a soup kitchen for indigent people. Soon it became clear that they needed more than food. The men who were obviously ill. They asked several physicians in town responded. We set up a clinic at the church for an hour each afternoon through Friday. There wasn't too much money to staff the clinic, but they needed a doctor on the job of making sure there was physical care."

"Then one day in 1964 our County Public Health Officer came up to me and said they were having trouble in the cherry orchard area. They hire a lot of people. These people would begin to arrive in late September. There'd be a two-week wait for the season. Good wages, so the migrants came up early to get a contract. If they missed the cherry season, they lost a major portion of their annual income."

"So, anyway, I drove out to see what the conditions were. Rain was holding the families were camped on the riverbank living in tents, and cars and cardboard boxes. Because they were waiting for the grower to come and pick them up, they were living behind a levee, cut off from the highway by without even knowing they existed."

"We set up a clinic in the firehouse at the beginning of the six-week harvest season we'd hold night sessions. This was our satellite clinic—and then the migrants got their own automobile. I'd load up the trunk and the supplies, and then my office nurse and I would go to the camps and the fields, looking for sick people. They would go to the county General Hospital except in emergencies. They were completely alienated. But our approach made all the difference. Even though it was lousy, hell, it was lousy."

Honor and Honesty

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How, the visitor asks, did Dr. Gianelli become interested in the special problems of farm workers?

"Well, back in 1955," he replies, "Old St. Mary's Church here in Stockton started a soup kitchen for indigent single men. Pretty soon it became clear that they needed some medical help for the men who were obviously ill. They asked around for help, and several physicians in town responded. We set up a year-round clinic at the church for an hour each afternoon after lunch, Monday through Friday. There wasn't too much trouble finding volunteers to staff the clinic, but they needed an organizer. So I took on the job of making sure there was physician coverage.

"Then one day in 1964 our County Public Housing Coordinator came up to me and said they were having a lot of problems out at Linden, and somebody ought to look into it. Linden's a big cherry orchard area. They hire a lot of pickers in early May, but these people would begin to arrive in late April, and then often there'd be a two-week wait for the season to begin. Cherries pay good wages, so the migrants came up early to be sure they'd get a contract. If they missed the cherry season, they'd miss out on a major portion of their annual income.

"So, anyway, I drove out to see what the situation was, and I found just awful conditions. Rain was holding up the cherries, so the families were camped on the riverbank along the Calaveras, living in tents, and cars and cardboard boxes, without any food because they were waiting for the growers to start hiring. They were living behind a levee, cut off from the road, so people would drive by without even knowing they existed.

"We set up a clinic in the firehouse at Linden, and during the six-week harvest season we'd hold night sessions. So that, you see, was our satellite clinic—and then the mobile clinic: that was my automobile. I'd load up the trunk and the back seat with medical supplies, and then my office nurse and I would take out for camps and the fields, looking for sick people. See, they wouldn't go to the county General Hospital except in a dire emergency. They were completely alienated. But our going out to them made all the difference. Even though it was lousy medicine. . . what the hell, it was lousy.

"Well, for six years we tried to find some support to really get the project established on a sound basis. But nobody was interested. I talked with the farmers around here until I was blue in the face. I've never heard a group that moans more. God, they moan! I can remember in the old days, my father owned a grocery store, and the farmers would come in for supplies. The farmer used to have a paternal relationship with his employee. Even the farmers would go to the county hospital, and the workers would live with them and eat at their tables. But mechanization and agribusiness are putting the squeeze on. So now it's kick the dog and try to wring a little more out of the worker. . . ."

"Last week," Dr. Bernardino interjects, "a Filipino man came into the clinic. He told me he'd been working for the same grower



for 27 years. He'd sprained his ankle carrying a sack of rice. I fixed him up, but I was a little surprised that he'd had to come to the clinic. Then a little while later the farmer called, sort of sheepish, and said to make it a workman's compensation case."

Dr. Gianelli nods. He resumes his history. He decided to do was to go to the OEO County Office here in the county. I went in a suit and expected to get heckled. I don't think they heard a word. After nine months for the proposal to get rejected, they used exactly the words they used: 'The social service providers of health care and the recipient of your project.' Well, I'm not providing, I don't know.

"So the next thing I did was fly to Washington to meet the congressman, and then I went over to the state to the man in charge of health programs. I was in the waiting room from 10 in the morning till 5 in the afternoon. The secretary said he wouldn't be able to see me, and there didn't seem to be any side door. So I just said I was going to wait. He came out. So he saw me. But you know, I'm a tactful guy in the world sometimes, and I said,

"Anyway, finally we got the state to have the Workers Health Service supporting us with mobile clinics. Last year the county Board of Supervisors kicked in \$15,000. And just recently we got the Regional Medical Programs to set up a program for migrants and poor people in the county."

How, the visitor asks, is the project going?

"Well, in the areas where the seasonal workers are segregated in fixed locations—the flash-peaks—we catch just about everybody. Every way. But we are still missing a lot of people on the fringes of Stockton living in suburbs. What we have to have is some kind of outreach program."

"We have a very good relationship with the health department. Their nurse and a bilingual aide in the Linden area, say, and the nurse who can do, but if she sees something serious, she puts the list to see the clinic doctor that very day. The duty at the clinic, so she makes sure it saves physician time, and screens out the aspirin. Then the nurse and the aide will come the next day to make certain the person is

and some support to really get on a basis. But nobody was interested here until I was blue that means more. God, they days, my father owned a and come in for supplies. The relationship with his employee. county hospital, and the workers air tables. But mechanization squeeze on. So now it's kick the out of the worker. . . ."

jects, "a Filipino man came working for the same grower



he carrying a sack of rice. I realised that he'd had to come for the farmer called, sort of a man's compensation case."

Dr. Gianelli nods. He resumes his history. "The next thing I decided to do was to go to the OEO Community Action Council here in the county. I went in a suit and explained the project and got heckled. I don't think they heard a word I said. But I waited nine months for the proposal to get rejected. I can quote you exactly the words they used: 'The social distance between the providers of health care and the recipients is too great for implementation of your project.' Well, I mean hell, if physicians aren't going to do the providing, I don't know who is!

"So the next thing I did was fly to Washington. I visited my congressman, and then I went over to the OEO and tried to talk to the man in charge of health programs. I sat in that guy's waiting room from 10 in the morning till 5 that night! Finally the secretary said he wouldn't be able to see me. I scouted around, and there didn't seem to be any side doors or escape exits anywhere. So I just said I was going to wait right where I was until he came out. So he saw me. But you know, I'm not the most tactful guy in the world sometimes, and I think I aggravated him.

"Anyway, finally we got the state to help, and with the Farm Workers Health Service supporting us we got \$60,000 for our mobile clinics. Last year the county Board of Supervisors agreed to kick in \$15,000. And just recently we received a grant from the Regional Medical Programs to set up multiphasic screening for migrants and poor people in the county."

How, the visitor asks, is the project going?

"Well, in the areas where the seasonal farm workers are congregated in fixed locations—the flash-peak housing centers and so forth—we catch just about everybody. Everybody who's sick anyway. But we are still missing a lot of people. Especially the ones on the fringes of Stockton living in substandard housing units. What we have to have is some kind of outreach or city program.

"We have a very good relationship with the county health department. Their nurse and a bilingual aide will be working out in the Linden area, say, and the nurse will pick up on what she can do, but if she sees something serious she'll put the person on the list to see the clinic doctor that very night. Then she's on duty at the clinic, so she makes sure the person comes. That saves physician time, and screens out the people who only need aspirin. Then the nurse and the aide will be back in the area next day to make certain the person is following the doctor's

prescription and taking his advice. We have pretty good follow-up.

"We're seeing people earlier than ever before. Bronchitis is being caught before it's seen at the County Hospital as pneumonia. We've cut out a lot of catastrophic illness. They seldom do radical surgery for cancer of the uterus at the County Hospital any more, and we feel that's a result of our routine Pap smears at the family planning clinics.

"And because we have a pediatrician at the clinic one night and a surgeon, say, the next, there's referral from one physician to the other—as well as to the doctors in town when special problems come up."

"The people I see," Dr. Bernardino comments, "feel they have to take advantage of this opportunity, because the best care available to them in the whole country, they say, is in California."

"I think in the future everybody is going to have prepaid health care of some kind," Dr. Gianelli observes. "People won't take the old style of county hospital medicine any more. I've had to change the way I practice out of my own office, too. For years I spent evenings catching up on the calls that piled up during the day. Now I use my nurses much more. And I've told one, 'Your job is to keep the people out of my hair so I don't have to sit here all night making damn stupid phone calls.' At first I lost a lot of patients because of that. . . about half of whom came back when they got the same treatment from other doctors! Middle-class people have been spoiled. Ninety percent of the house calls I used to make were totally unnecessary. What I'd like to see is a 24-hour clinic in town that's open to anyone who is sick.

"The Migrant Health Project here in San Joaquin County was started because some of us felt there was a moral obligation to take care of sick people. Years ago, someone told me this project would die because we wouldn't be able to find doctors who'd be willing to serve. But we have a waiting list right now of physicians who want to help out. So I think it's been pretty well accepted that there are doctors willing to treat sick people, no matter who they are.

"Now, of course, it's not 100 percent, but you won't find 100 percent in any group. And I think part of it is that some people are afraid of change. They grew up in a system that was profitable to them. A lot of it is insecurity. Maybe I'm just too damn secure . . . but a man with an education as a physician has

nothing to be insecure about, I don't think I've ever heard of any physicians starving anywhere.

"One thing we'd like to do here is get more people involved. We've had a hell of a time finding people to speak for other migrants. What's needed is a strong workers' union. I don't see why they don't have one. Doctors have a pretty good union, don't they? And growers do too. You have to have equals at the bargaining table. Otherwise they won't listen."

As Dr. Gianelli wrote in his report:

"The poor are often considered as a burden on society. We must not forget that they exist for economic reasons, as for themselves, and as such a part of the community. The poor have numbers, but they are learning something about the use of their own power. If they cannot use it more effectively, the social order which landed men on top cannot free all of its members from the dehumanization of poverty."

"And so any report on services to the poor must be presented, and must be read, in the context of the country's indictment of our existing structure. In the large and dismal record, we will recognize the successes and small increments of progress. But if it is to be honest, it must recognize the failures which it is framed—the dishonesty of the government, of our social and economic system. It continues to allow us to do too little. The most ingenuous will find sufficient cause for thought that too little too late is better than nothing. The times demand a great deal more than a mere concept of honor and honesty."

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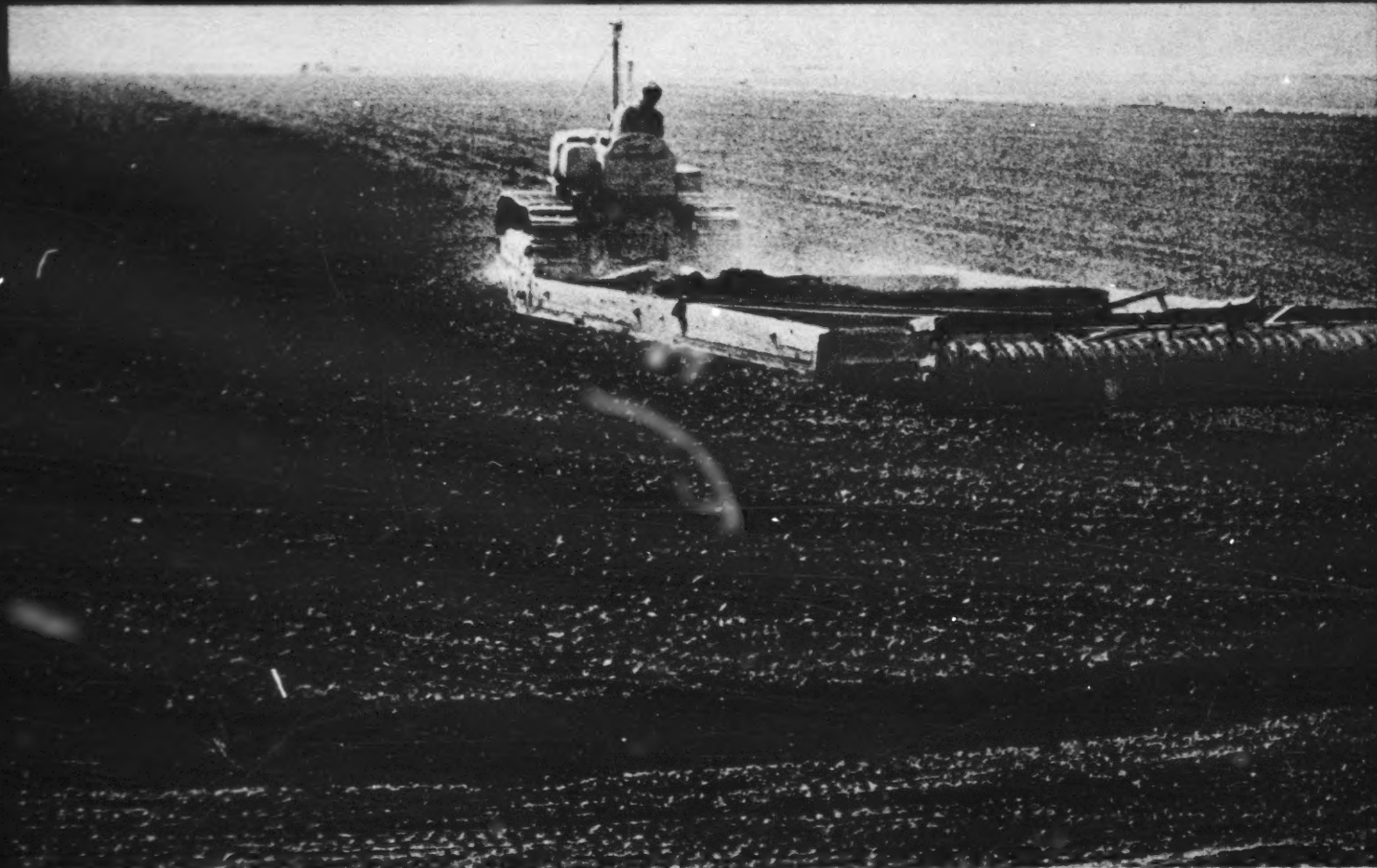
nothing to be insecure about, I don't think! Do you? Have you heard of any physicians starving anywhere?

"One thing we'd like to do here is get more of the community involved. We've had a hell of a time finding migrants who can speak for other migrants. What's needed, I think, is a farm workers' union. I don't see why they shouldn't have one—we doctors have a pretty good union, don't you think? And the growers do too. You have to have equals talking to equals around the bargaining table. Otherwise they won't get anything."

As Dr. Gianelli wrote in his report:

"The poor are often considered powerless, but let us not forget that they exist for each other as well as for themselves, and as such develop a true community. The poor have numbers, and they are learning something about the use of power: wondering if they cannot use it more rationally than the social order which landed men on the moon, but cannot free all of its members from the grinding dehumanization of poverty.

"And so any report on services to the poor must be presented, and must be read, in the context of poverty's indictment of our existing structures. Out of a large and dismal record, we will report on small successes and small increments of progress. If the report is to be honest, it must recognize the dishonesty in which it is framed—the dishonesty of medical care, of government, of our social and economic order—which continues to allow us to do too little too late. Only the most ingenuous will find sufficient comfort in the thought that too little too late is better than nothing. The times demand a great deal more, and so does any concept of honor and honesty. . . ."



Facts

What Is Meant by Agribusiness?

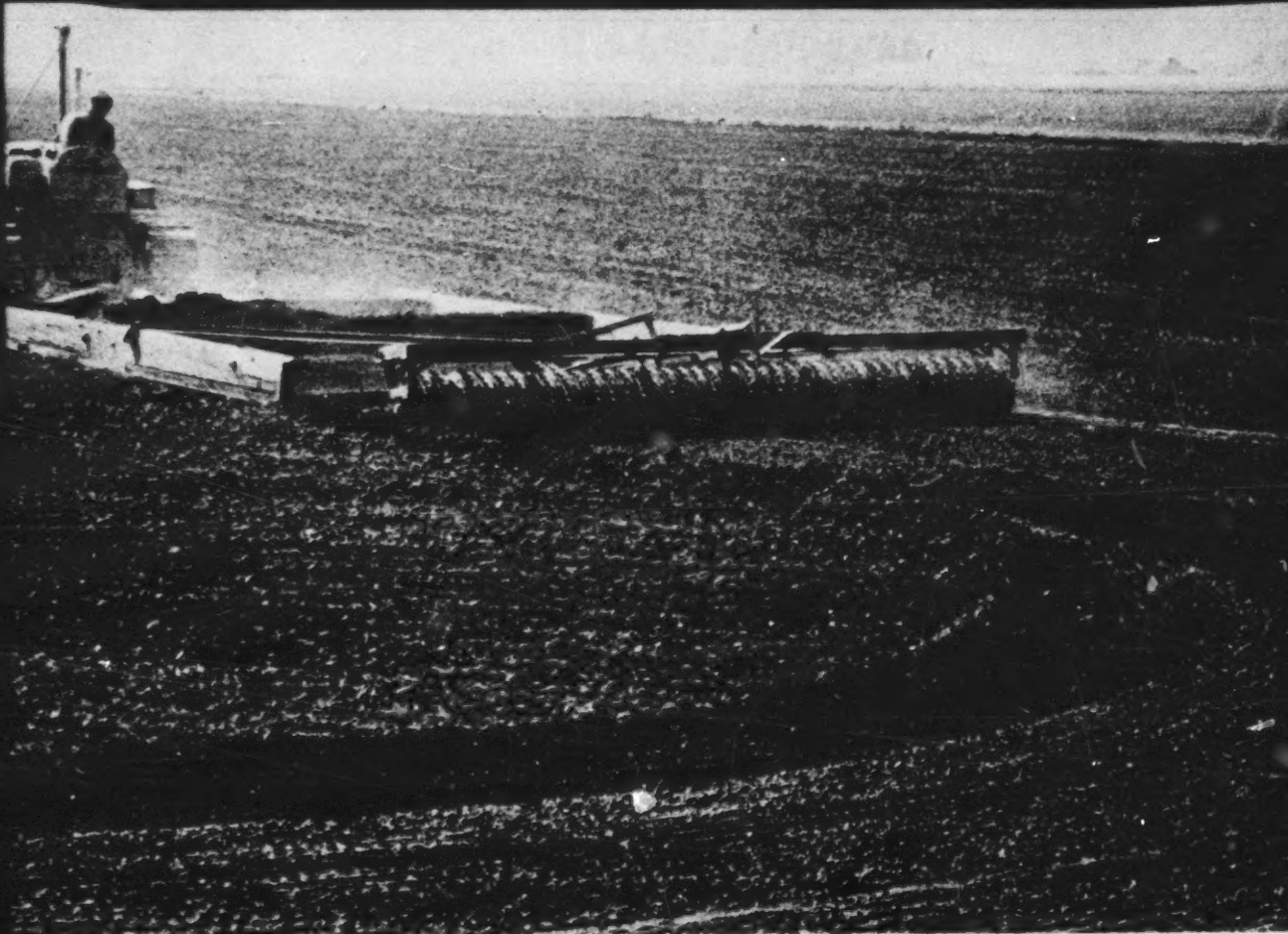
● California led the nation in farm production and profits for the 22nd consecutive year in 1969.²¹

● Average California farm size in 1968 was 617 acres, with the average farm valued at \$325,000—370 percent higher than the national average.²²

● State agricultural trends: fewer farms, especially small farms (17,000 lost between 1964 and 1968), but stable amount

of acreage under cultivation (37.2 million acres), increasing emphasis on "migrant crops" (fruits, nuts, vegetables and melons) (1968).²³

● Mechanization is displacing seasonal labor. 33,000 jobs were reported lost between 1964 and 1968 in major California crops employing seasonal labor.



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● Mechanization is displacing seasonal labor. More than 33,000 jobs were reported lost between 1964 and 1968 in 11 major California crops employing seasonal workers.²⁴

Who Work the Farms?

- Some 742,300 people had farm income in 1965, of whom only 486,700 earned more than \$100.²⁵

- Average monthly farm employment in California in 1969 was 292,300 people. During the peak harvest week, however, 108,700 women and youths were in the fields—28 percent of the farm work force.²⁶

- Workers of Mexican origin constitute 46 percent of the total California farm labor pool. Negroes, Orientals, Indians and other non-Anglos make up 10 percent.²⁷

- About one-third of all farm laborers available for full-time work nevertheless spend more than half the year unemployed.²⁸

- Over 200,000 agricultural migrant workers and their families were on the move in 43 California counties during 1969.

Who Are the Migrants?

- About 84 percent of California migrants are of Mexican origin, 13 percent Anglo, 1.7 percent Negro, and 1 percent American Indians, Orientals and others.

Where Do They Migrate From?

- About 34 percent are California residents, 35 percent from Texas, 17 percent from Mexico, 7 percent from Arizona, the balance from other states.

What Do Farm Workers Earn?

- Median annual income for California farm workers in 1965, including non-farm earnings, was \$1,388.²⁹

- Annual income for migrant families living in state migrant housing centers in 1969 was \$3,019—compared with a nationwide migrant income average of \$891!³⁰

- Average hourly wage for California farm workers in 1969 was \$1.78—compared to \$1.33 for all U.S. farm workers, the lowest paid force in American industry.³¹

- Under historic contracts signed by unionized California grape workers, hourly wages rose from \$1.80, increasing to \$1.90 next year. Extra 12 cents hourly for health and welfare.



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California farm workers in 1969 for all U.S. farm workers, the industry.³¹

● Under historic contracts signed by growers this year with unionized California grape workers, hourly base pay is \$1.75–\$1.80, increasing to \$1.90 next year. Employers pay an additional 12 cents hourly for health and welfare benefits.³²





What About Non-Union Benefits?

- Farm workers are specifically excluded from the unemployment insurance program.
- Claim rate for farm workers in the California Disability Insurance Program in 1965 was 45 per 1,000 insured workers—less than half the claim rate for the general population.³³
- Since 1959, all hired workers in agriculture have been covered by the Workmen's Compensation Law—but many do not know it or, because of migrancy and scattered services, cannot take advantage of the law's benefits.

What Are the Working Conditions?

- Farm labor varies from grueling stock raising to fruit-picking among trees whose scratches are treated with pesticides. Temperatures in grape orchards reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit. High organic content in the soil and peat dirt severely irritates skin. Sixteen farm workers in Fresno County orange groves were poisoned in 1968 by phosphate pesticides.³⁴
- Agricultural workers suffer the highest death rate in California—11.9 per 1,000 workers annually, compared to the rate for all industries combined.³⁵
- The accidental death rate for farm workers is 1.5 times higher than for the U.S. population as a whole.
- A Salinas Valley packing corporation was sued in federal court in June, 1970, with fraudulent promises to berry pickers from Texas with promises of better wages than those actually offered when the workers arrived.

What Are the Living Conditions?

- 4,337 families were turned away from 23 state migrant farm labor housing centers in 1969 for 20,000 people.³⁷
- In the 11 counties with migrant housing components, the local state housing centers provide only 10 percent of all family-type housing available compared to 68 percent of the 2,042 camps in the other counties for single men only.
- One-third of California's deteriorated housing is concentrated in rural areas.³⁸
- Compared to the state's general population, the living conditions are five times worse for migrant farm workers.

What Are Their Educational Levels?

- 46 percent of farm workers did not finish high school, and 70 percent of those who did finish high school are of Mexican origin.³⁹

What Are the Working Conditions?

- Farm labor varies from grueling stoop labor in broiling sun to fruit-picking among trees whose scratchy leaves are powdery with pesticides. Temperatures in grape arbors often reach 130 degrees Fahrenheit. High organic content of San Joaquin Valley peat dirt severely irritates skin. Sixteen farm workers in Tulare County orange groves were poisoned in June, 1970, by organic phosphate pesticides.³⁴

- Agricultural workers suffer the highest occupational disease rate in California—11.9 per 1,000 workers—more than twice the rate for all industries combined.³⁵

- The accidental death rate for farm workers is three times higher than for the U.S. population as a whole.

- A Salinas Valley packing corporation was charged in federal court in June, 1970, with fraudulently recruiting strawberry pickers from Texas with promises of wages far in excess of those actually offered when the workers arrived.³⁶

What Are the Living Conditions?

- 4,337 families were turned away for lack of vacancies from 23 state migrant farm labor housing centers in 1969—more than 20,000 people.³⁷

- In the 11 counties with migrant health project sanitation components, the local state housing centers comprise a full 15 percent of all family-type housing available to migrants. More than 68 percent of the 2,042 camps in these counties are for single men only.

- One-third of California's deteriorated and substandard housing is concentrated in rural areas.³⁸

- Compared to the state's general population, housing conditions are five times worse for migrant farm workers.

What Are Their Educational Levels?

- 46 percent of farm workers did not complete the eighth grade, and 70 percent of those who did not complete grade school are of Mexican origin.³⁹

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● More than 87 percent of those over 18 living at state migrant housing centers in 1969 had not completed high school.⁴⁰

What Are Their Health Problems?

● The postneonatal death rate per 1,000 live births in the San Joaquin Valley in 1965 was 9.1 for farm workers, compared to 5.8 for all occupational groups in California.

● 48 percent of farm workers claiming hospitalization benefits under the state disability insurance program required treatment for more than one week, as compared to 38 percent for the general population.⁴¹

● Major health conditions commonly seen at project clinics include gross dental problems, malnutrition and upper respiratory illnesses. Injuries, skin ailments and chronic diseases predominate among adult males, though injuries are seldom treated at clinics and men, in general, do not utilize project services. Mothers and children constituted over 80 percent of those receiving services in medical care facilities in 1968.

● The mean hemoglobin level—the measure of anemia—at one migrant clinic was 9.6 for women and 13.0 for men, compared to 12.6 and 14.2 respectively for the general population treated at a metropolitan hospital in Oakland, California.

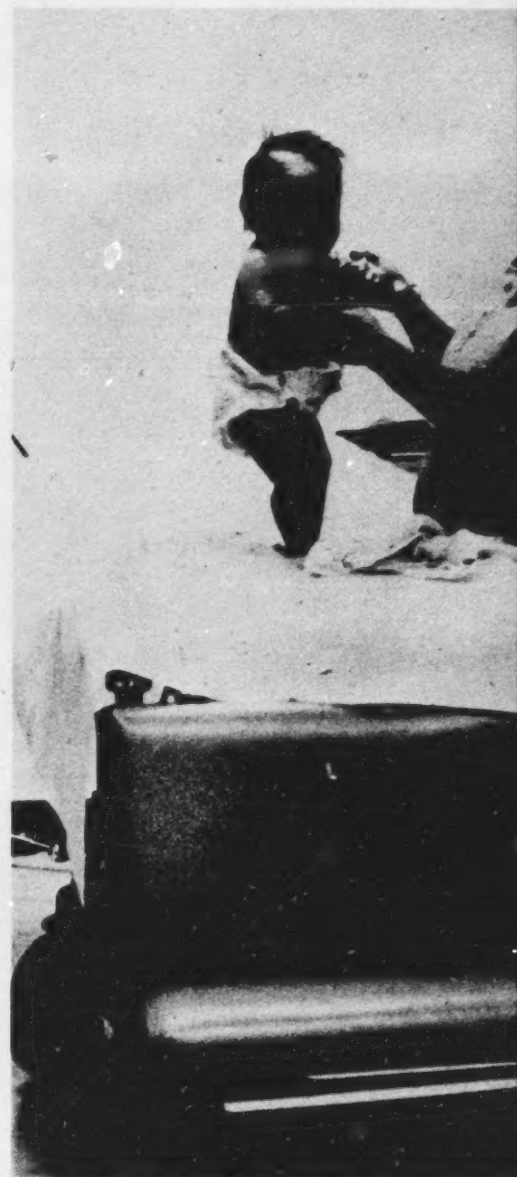
● 31 percent of the wives of farm workers who delivered live babies in California in 1965 had five or more children, as compared to 14 percent for wives in other occupational categories.

What Is the California Farm Workers Health Service?

Administratively, the Farm Workers Health Service is a unit of the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health under the Preventive Medical Program of the California State Department of Public Health.

The staff includes consultants in public health nursing, health education, environmental health, social work and statistical analysis, as well as the project director and an administrative assistant.

The purpose of the Farm Workers Health Service is to promote, initiate and provide consultative, statistical and directive services to the local migrant health projects.



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What Kinds of Health Services Does the Program Offer?

The 26 California migrant health projects offer one or more of the following services:

Fee-For-Service Medical Care—A system whereby patients are referred by project nurses to local private physicians who have agreed to accept migrants for diagnosis and treatment. Payment is made from project funds, subject to local and Farm Workers Health Service review.

General Medical Clinics—Evening clinics, either mobile or stationary, serving all age groups and located in areas where migrant farm workers concentrate. Physicians provide care, while nurses assume most coordinating, counseling and follow-up responsibilities. Nearly all clinics provide English interpreting services. Medication may be dispensed at the clinic, or patients referred to local pharmacies. X-ray and laboratory services are contracted to local facilities.

Maternity Service Clinics—Separate clinics held periodically—usually weekly or bimonthly—at which prenatal, postnatal and family planning services are offered under the supervision of a pediatrician and/or obstetrician-gynecologist. Registered nurses and bilingual community health aides usually offer group health education in addition.

Dental Care Services—Restorative and preventive dental care under a fee-for-service referral system. Funds for such services remain limited, though utilization and need are rapidly increasing.

Public Health Nursing Services—Home or school visits for the purposes of casefinding, referrals, teaching, counseling, coordination of services among social agencies and insuring continuity of care. In addition to overall preventive health care responsibilities within her assigned territory, the nurse may provide individual services through well-baby, immunization, crippled children, tuberculosis and other specialty clinics. Registered nurses and licensed vocational nurses also serve in clinic positions. Nursing aides assist in clinics and in field visits under professional supervision.

Environmental Health Services—Surveillance by sanitarians of farm labor camps, other farm worker-occupied housing, fields and farms where food crops are grown and harvested to assure that

legal and proper public health standards are maintained. Spanish-speaking environmental health aides assist in inspections and in education efforts recently been focussed on emerging occupational safety problems—especially in connection with the insurance of safe sewage and water systems in migrant camps.

Health Education—Activities, either on an individual or through group sessions, designed to educate families to a better understanding of the conditions and problems, the types of services available and the ways in which to care for themselves and make appropriate use of the services. Because most projects employ health educators, most teaching is done by doctors, public health nurses, community aides. Some projects have developed health education materials in Spanish for use on local media, and the Service has designed and published a series of brochures which explain, in simple Spanish, health, rabies vaccination for pets, family planning, nutrition, environmental health and dental services. Progress on pamphlets covering family planning, home accidents and work safety. A Spanish-speaking health personnel has been developed and trained.

Aide Services—Use of highly motivated personnel drawn from the recipient community to perform such tasks as field visits, clinic services, agency relations, health education with group clients and interpreting. Increasing emphasis on the employment of well-trained and qualified personnel in California projects in order to achieve maximum effectiveness of health manpower.

How Effective Is the California Migrant Health Program?

● In 1963, when the first federally funded projects were established under the program, some 10,000 clinic visits. In 1969, about 25,000 clinic visits. Nearly 43,000 diseases were

legal and proper public health standards are maintained. Spanish-speaking environmental health aides may be utilized to assist in inspections and in education efforts. Special attention has recently been focussed on emerging occupational health and safety problems—especially in connection with pesticides—and assurance of safe sewage and water systems in all farm labor camps.

Health Education—Activities, either on a one-to-one basis or through group sessions, designed to educate migrants and their families to a better understanding of the nature of their health conditions and problems, the types of services available to them, and the ways in which to care for themselves properly and to make appropriate use of the services. Because only a few of the projects employ health educators, most teaching is conducted on-the-job by doctors, public health nurses, sanitarians and community aides. Some projects have developed spot announcements in Spanish for use on local media, and the Farm Workers Health Service has designed and published a series of illustrated brochures which explain, in simple Spanish, subjects such as child health, rabies vaccination for pets, family relations, immunization, nutrition, environmental health and dental health. Work is also in progress on pamphlets covering family planning, pre-natal care, home accidents and work safety. A Spanish-English Glossary for health personnel has been developed and received wide usage.

Aide Services—Use of highly motivated non-professional personnel drawn from the recipient community to assist in or perform such tasks as field visits, clinic services, administration, community agency relations, health education with groups, transportation for clients and interpreting. Increasing emphasis has been placed on the employment of well-trained and qualified auxiliary personnel in California projects in order to achieve a more efficient allocation of health manpower.

How Effective Is the California Migrant Health Program?

● In 1963, when the first federally funded medical clinics were established under the program, some 4,000 patients paid 10,000 clinic visits. In 1969, about 25,000 patients paid 66,600 clinic visits. Nearly 43,000 diseases were treated.

Problem: *The unrelenting patient load is a serious burden on harried doctors who, after a full day's work in their own offices, may be called upon to spend up to seven hours at night seeing 70 or 80 clinic patients. In addition, the clinic facilities are often extremely cramped and inadequate. Funds to build satisfactory clinic quarters are sorely needed in nearly every project.*

● In 1969, 47 percent of the patients seen at clinics were women over the age of 14, 42 percent were children under 15, and only 11 percent were men over the age of 15. The women paid an average of 3.8 visits each, the men and children 2.4 visits each. Compare this with a 1958 California Health Survey which showed about seven doctor visits each year for the average woman, about five for the average man and child.

Problem: *The clinics with the highest overall attendance were also those with the lowest adult male attendance. It would appear that a waiting room crowded with women, many visibly pregnant, and overflowing with children is enough to drive even a sick man away. Indeed, statistics show that men are more than twice as likely as women or children to leave a clinic without being examined.*

● In 1969, project nurses paid nearly 27,000 home visits and referred nearly 4,000 people for medical care. Nevertheless, they estimated that only about 30 percent of California's migrant population were reached by these public health nursing services.

Problem: *Many more nurses are needed, yet funds to hire them are not available.*

● In 1969, migrant health project sanitarians made nearly 6,000 labor camp inspections, 9,000 housing inspections and 6,400 field and farm inspections. During the year's peak employment week, 80 percent of California's migrants are at work in the counties with sanitation project components—and thus, for that week at least, benefit from environmental inspections.

Problem: *The project counties contain only about 45 percent of California's farms and irrigated land. Nevertheless, about 80 percent of all the environmental services to migrants in the entire state of California are given by these 11 projects. Without the federal funds which support such local programs, the number of man-hours that would be devoted to migrant environmental serv-*

ices can only be speculated upon. More workers in agricultural counties—because have received even less assistance with the

Why Isn't the Migrant Health Program More Extensive?

The level of funding at which the program is inadequate to sustain high quality care, expansion of services all simultaneously. emphasis must be on quality of care in expansion. It should be noted that the nationwide average per capita expenditure for migrant health in 1967 was only \$7.20. The medical expenditure for the U.S. population was \$256.)⁴²

But even if money were available, there is a shortage of health manpower which is especially acute in some of two project counties, for example, the shortage of physicians to serve populations of 12,200. problems exist among the other health pro-

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ices can only be speculated upon. Moreover, the resident farm workers in agricultural counties—because of program emphasis—have received even less assistance with their environmental needs.

Why Isn't the Migrant Health Program More Extensive?

The level of funding at which the program operates is simply inadequate to sustain high quality care, excellent facilities and expansion of services all simultaneously. In such a situation, the emphasis must be on quality of care in existing projects. (It might be noted that the nationwide average per capita expenditure for migrant health in 1967 was only \$7.20. Per capita health and medical expenditure for the U.S. population as a whole, in 1968, was \$256.)⁴²

But even if money were available, there is a severe shortage of health manpower which is especially acute in rural areas. In each of two project counties, for example, there are 11 practicing physicians to serve populations of 12,200 and 15,500. Similar problems exist among the other health professions.

In many agricultural counties, support for government-sponsored health services to the poor has proved difficult or impossible to muster. Even in the best projects, community involvement and community organization—both among farm workers and among the affluent—continue as critical needs.

Has the Program, Then, Had Significant Impact Over the Decade?

In August, 1960, staff members of the California State Department of Public Health conducted field interviews at several farm labor camps in various parts of the state. At the Richland Camp, on the outskirts of Yuba City in Sutter County, they found 365 families—often as many as six to a family—living in one-room tin houses without running water or inside toilet facilities. Inadequate maintenance resulted in unsanitary communal privies and bath houses. A third of the families had no means of refrigerating food. Other than once-a-month well-child clinics held by the local health department nurse, there were no medical services at the camp. The antiquated county hospital was two miles away, with no available public transportation to it.

Of the families interviewed, about two-thirds of the children under three years of age had never been immunized against diphtheria, whooping cough, lockjaw or smallpox. About two-thirds of all the children under 18 had not been immunized against polio. At the time of the interview, a severe epidemic of infectious diarrhea was underway throughout the camp—affecting nearly every family. If the members were able to work even a few hours a day, they considered themselves well. Eight infants had been hospitalized because of the disease the previous month. In addition, the interviewers observed untreated cases of contagious skin infections, acute febrile tonsillitis, lymphadenopathy, asthma, pregnancy without any prenatal care, iron deficiency anemia, disabling but untreated physical handicaps, chronic disorders such as congenital heart disease, hemophilia, arthritis and dental caries—none of which was receiving medical follow-up.

Appalled by conditions such as these—duplicated wherever seasonal farm workers gathered—The California legislature set the pace nationally by adopting, in 1961, laws specifically designed to promote health care and services for these agricultural migrants. Federal legislation followed in 1962.

Now let us jump ahead 10 years, to September 21, 1970. It is a fall-like afternoon in Sutter County, and though there are no

trees among the 100 new cabins at the Flash-Peak Housing Center, a steady breeze sweeps across the grass from the towering elms surrounding the OEO Child Day-Care Center. Inside, 36 families are being read to in groups by community aides. On a wall near the door hangs a calendar listing the dates and times at which the children who need them. All of these children have been examined upon their arrival at the center. Across a street from the building houses a day-school operated for mothers from the neighboring County Housing Center. In the building are the bright, compact examination rooms for periodic public health nursing clinics. A cluster of tables under the elms—built on the foundations of the dilapidated, old school building—visited by interviewers in 1960.

At the flash-peak center, Mrs. Cirila Amaral, a community aide for the Sutter-Yuba Health Department, is on one of her frequent home visits. The woman is taking her first birth to a baby boy, Antonio, two weeks old. She comes to register the infant on the family card at the local health department, and to confirm the next well-baby clinic at the camp. Dr. Amaral learns that the woman's husband can find only sporadic work. As a constant presence around the county—1,000 miles a month—she provides a woman referral service. She can often refer to housing vacancies or a cheap, reliable piece of car part. But in this case, with the pruned list of job suggestions. Instead, she fills a card for the family to receive surplus food commodities.

The county public health nurse responsible for the area, Mrs. Nancy Singh, is in the camp. Mrs. Amaral secures her signature at once. Through Mrs. Amaral, Mrs. Singh reminds the mother to breast-feeding—to drink three glasses of milk is one of the commodities the family will receive.

After determining that there are no other children in the family, Mrs. Amaral continues her round of calls. At noon, will be a visit to a trailer in a walnut grove to demonstrate how a baby's temperature is taken. To give the new parents a thermometer and

trees among the 100 new cabins at the four-year-old Richland Flash-Peak Housing Center, a steady breeze is whipping leaves across the grass from the towering elms surrounding the nearby OEO Child Day-Care Center. Inside, 36 children from migrant families are being read to in groups by teachers and teaching aides. On a wall near the door hangs a chart outlining the doses and times at which the children who need medicines should get them. All of these children have been examined and immunized upon their arrival at the center. Across a short walkway, a similar building houses a day-school operated for the benefit of working mothers from the neighboring County Housing Project. Inside that building are the bright, compact examining rooms used for periodic public health nursing clinics. Across the street, picnic tables cluster under the elms—built on the concrete slabs which served as foundations for the dilapidated, overcrowded tin cabins visited by interviewers in 1960.

At the flash-peak center, Mrs. Cirila Amaral—bi-lingual community aide for the Sutter-Yuba Health Department—is making one of her frequent home visits. The woman she is calling on gave birth to a baby boy, Antonio, two weeks ago. Mrs. Amaral has come to register the infant on the family record maintained by the local health department, and to confirm an appointment for the next well-baby clinic at the camp. During the conversation, Mrs. Amaral learns that the woman's husband has been able to find only sporadic work. As a constant chauffeur and traveler around the county—1,000 miles a month—Mrs. Amaral is a one-woman referral service. She can often recommend job openings, housing vacancies or a cheap, reliable place to find a needed car part. But in this case, with the prune harvest just over, she has no job suggestions. Instead, she fills out an authorization for the family to receive surplus food commodities.

The county public health nurse responsible for the Richland area, Mrs. Nancy Singh, is in the camp this afternoon too. Mrs. Amaral secures her signature at once on the referral form. Through Mrs. Amaral, Mrs. Singh reminds the mother—who is breast-feeding—to drink three glasses of milk a day. Powdered milk is one of the commodities the family will receive.

After determining that there are no other immediate problems, Mrs. Amaral continues her round of calls. Among them, this afternoon, will be a visit to a trailer in a walnut grove, where she will demonstrate how a baby's temperature is taken. (She will also give the new parents a thermometer and a sheaf of Spanish-



language health pamphlets.) Later she will call on a newly-arrived family seen recent migrant medical clinic held five nights a County Hospital. Mrs. Singh wants to as children have all been immunized. (In fact, they have—but there are other problems. cared for by aged grandparents while the year theft conviction in a Southwestern p is told of the situation, at that night's m will begin a lengthy correspondence with thorities in the other state.)

Why this vignette? Because "impact," cerned, is extremely hard to convey stat gram makes its impact when sick people will get sick), when diseases are controll always persist), when services which had n able are provided, when the conditions of at Richland—as in many, though by no m California—the array of services crystalliz Health Program has had a dramatic imp onal farm workers.

The entire concept of a statewide M example—the maintenance of safe, well-ea ing centers for migrant workers' families—The development of day-care facilities w for young children, and of special educat who are often on the move, and of thor components in these programs—all are p the past decade. Working and living co graded tremendously through replacement ous housing, provision of good potable wa ment of sanitary standards.

The activities of Mrs. Amaral in the S trate the impact aides have had in bring cational, and environmental services to Many of the Spanish-language materials

language health pamphlets.) Later she will also make a follow-up call on a newly-arrived family seen recently by Mrs. Singh at the migrant medical clinic held five nights a week at the new Sutter County Hospital. Mrs. Singh wants to ascertain whether the children have all been immunized. (In fact, Mrs. Amaral will learn, they have—but there are other problems. The children are being cared for by aged grandparents while their mother serves a four-year theft conviction in a Southwestern prison. When Mrs. Singh is told of the situation, at that night's migrant clinic session, she will begin a lengthy correspondence with prison and welfare authorities in the other state.)

Why this vignette? Because "impact," where health is concerned, is extremely hard to convey statistically. A health program makes its impact when sick people are cured (but others will get sick), when diseases are controlled (although some will always persist), when services which had never before been available are provided, when the conditions of life are improved. And at Richland—as in many, though by no means all, parts of rural California—the array of services crystallized around the Migrant Health Program has had a dramatic impact on the lives of seasonal farm workers.

The entire concept of a statewide Migrant Master Plan, for example—the maintenance of safe, well-equipped temporary housing centers for migrant workers' families—is unique to California. The development of day-care facilities with staff trained to care for young children, and of special education programs for pupils who are often on the move, and of thorough health monitoring components in these programs—all are part of the "impact" of the past decade. Working and living conditions have been upgraded tremendously through replacement of poor, often dangerous housing, provision of good potable water systems and enforcement of sanitary standards.

The activities of Mrs. Amaral in the Sutter-Yuba project illustrate the impact aides have had in bringing health, social, educational, and environmental services to farm worker families. Many of the Spanish-language materials Mrs. Amaral distributes

did not exist until developed by the Farm Workers Health Service. The institution of medical clinics at night for farm workers, and their variety—seasonal clinics, year-round clinics, stationary and mobile clinics—as well as their expansion from acute-care-only to diagnostic-service-on-site are part of the major impact of the Migrant Health Program over the past 10 years. Finally, the training and placement—and deep involvement—of health professionals in rural areas on behalf of a population with unique problems has contributed to the impact of the program. The new Sutter County Hospital, for example, was able to offer year-round clinic services to migrants because four of its dedicated physicians—including the medical director—held a contest to see who could work the longest without pay.

The difference between Richland in 1960 and Richland today can only be described as "impact."

But What Does the Future Hold?

In many ways, 1970 may prove a pivotal year in the history of California farm labor—and in the future of health care programs for migrant agricultural workers.

In 1970, farm workers made their first significant gains toward unionization when they won recognition from California table grape growers, and launched a campaign to secure union contracts for pickers in the Salinas Valley lettuce fields. Union representation for all farm workers—if it should, indeed, come about—would result in crucial changes in the quality of health care available to them. The grape industry contracts include health benefits paid into a union fund for each worker by his employer. Although it is not yet certain what directions the union health plan will take, such benefits—along with improved wages and working conditions—must have important consequences in determining the future of government programs for seasonal farm workers.

In 1970, too, a bill to create a national health insurance program for all Americans was introduced into Congress. Although its defeat—on economic, political and philosophic grounds—is

practically certain, the mere fact that such a bill is introduced receives serious legislative consideration shattering changes in the future.

But the millennium remains far off, and the Federal Migrant Health Act of 1970 must be a milestone. The program is now scheduled to expire in 1975. At that time, it is hoped, alternative avenues of health care delivery to seasonal farm workers will have been developed.

Indeed, if nothing else, the Migrant Health Act has highlighted the fact that the problems facing farm workers are symptomatic of barriers to good health for everyone in rural America. The vast distances, the scarcity of doctors and dentists and numerous patients on too few practitioners, the lack of broad environmental health care, the lack of broad environmental health care, these affect the farmer, the resident farm worker, the local shopkeeper alike. The difference, however, is that the farmer has a voice.

When originally designed, the national health goal—to alleviate the immediate, basic health needs of cultural migrants in America. During the past decade, the Farm Workers Health Service program has been a model. The incorporation of medical clinics into the health projects has, perhaps, been the single greatest achievement in the health of migrants. And yet, it has become clear that health clinics for a segregated population do not constitute a long-term design for the future.

What is needed, then, is legislation that takes into account the complexity of providing health care. Comprehensive Health Planning and Medical Programs must take a leading role in meeting this challenge.

Because these are years of flux, the future is especially difficult to predict. Increasing federal funding support, the emphasis on government programming, administrative reorganization of health agencies—all will dictate the shape of health care in coming years.

practically certain, the mere fact that such a program can now receive serious legislative consideration augurs for precedent-shattering changes in the future.

But the millennium remains far off, and so the renewal of the Federal Migrant Health Act of 1970 must be considered a milestone. The program is now scheduled to expire in 1973, by which time, it is hoped, alternative avenues of funding for health care delivery to seasonal farm workers will have been developed.

Indeed, if nothing else, the Migrant Health Program has documented the fact that the problems facing migrant farm workers are symptomatic of barriers to good health confronting nearly everyone in rural America. The vast distances between hospitals, the scarcity of doctors and dentists and nurses, the pressure of too many patients on too few practitioners, the soaring costs of health care, the lack of broad environmental and sanitation programs—these affect the farmer, the resident farm worker, the migrant and the local shopkeeper alike. The difference, of course, is in degree.

When originally designed, the national program had a very limited goal—to alleviate the immediate, acute ills besetting agricultural migrants in America. During the past decade, the scope of the Farm Workers Health Service program has increased enormously. The incorporation of medical clinics into more and more projects has, perhaps, been the single greatest contribution to the health of migrants. And yet, it has become clear that specialized clinics for a segregated population do not alone constitute a sound design for the future.

What is needed, then, is legislation and programming which take into account the complexity of problems surrounding rural health care. Comprehensive Health Planning boards and Regional Medical Programs must take a leading responsibility in meeting this challenge.

Because these are years of flux, the future for farm labor is especially difficult to predict. Increasing mechanization, dwindling federal funding support, the emphasis on decentralization in government programming, administrative reorganization of California health agencies—all will dictate the shape of Migrant Health activities in coming years.

Meanwhile, the California Farm Workers Health Service must itself continue to invent and improve. Some new emphases for the future may include:

☐ Intensified efforts to teach migrants to teach other migrants, so that knowledge of sound health practices, and of how to use existing resources, spreads into areas where the Migrant Health Program does not reach.

☐ Efforts to involve the "consumers," the migrants and seasonal agricultural workers themselves, more effectively in guiding the program. Project staff members must learn from farm workers, both what they want and what their special strengths are. It is not enough to concentrate on traditional problems alone, or on fostering a "professional" outlook.

☐ Efforts to design alternative health care systems for rural areas. One model, for example, might be a network of satellite clinics offering comprehensive care, radiating from central facilities where more specialized diagnostic and treatment procedures would be undertaken. At the latter, the distance factor must be accounted for, either through provision of transportation or of free overnight accommodations.

☐ Efforts to develop environmental programs which go beyond mere enforcement of sanitation laws. Rather, such programs might include a mutual inventory by consumers and technicians of local environmental needs, followed by community training sessions and direct sanitation aide services. These could include rodent and insect control, disinfection and sealing of wells, minor home and plumbing repairs, cleaning and pumping of septic tanks and cesspools. . . .



Health for the harvesters—a modest goal in
Perhaps, after more than a century, this dream
to fulfillment.

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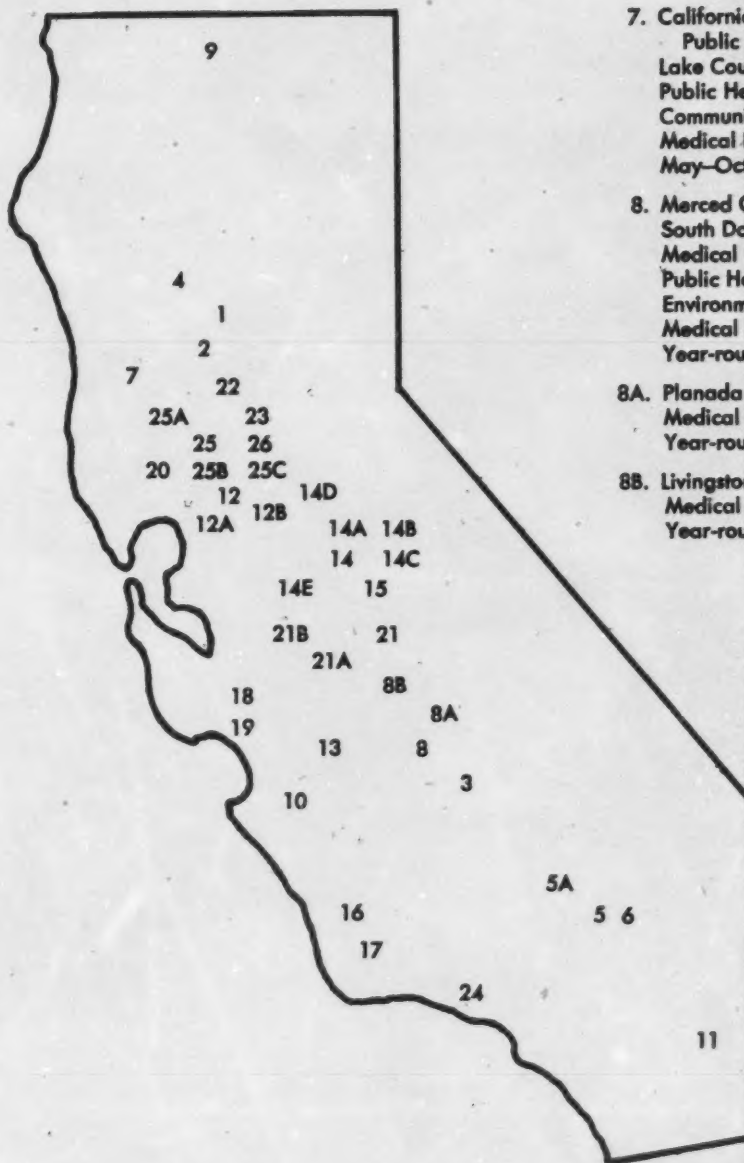
Health for the harvesters—a modest goal in so rich a land.
Perhaps, after more than a century, this decade of hope will finally lead
to fulfillment.

The California Projects

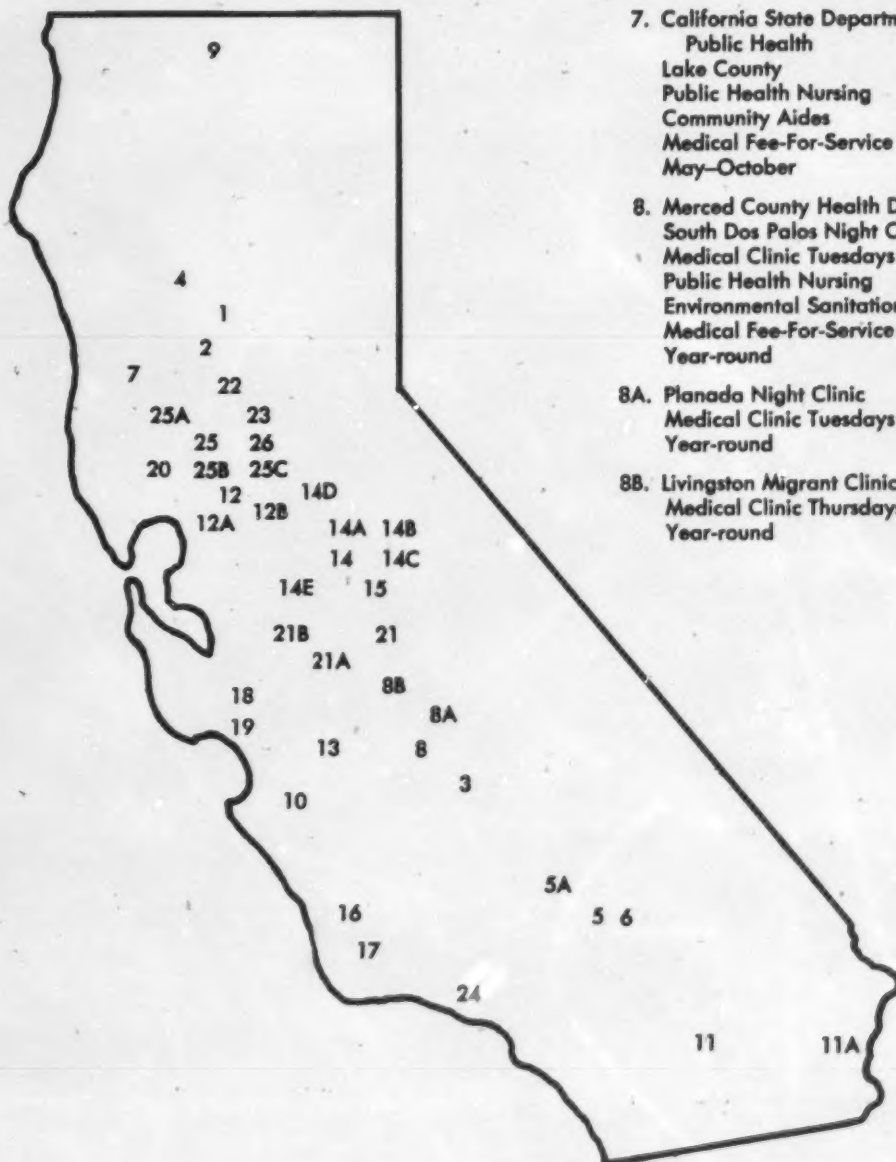
(Sponsor, location, services, season)

1. Butte County Health Department
Gridley Farm Labor Camp
Medical Clinic Tuesdays 8-12,
Thursdays 4-6
Public Health Nursing
June-September
2. Colusa County Health Department
Colusa
Medical Clinic Wednesdays 8-5
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Medical Fee-For-Service
April-October
3. Fresno County Health Department
Parlier Clinic Mondays and
Wednesdays 6-10
Family Planning Tuesdays 6-10
Maternity Clinic Thursdays 6-10
Year-round
4. California State Department of
Public Health
Glenn County
Public Health Nursing
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
May-October
5. Kern County Medical Society
Bakersfield
Medical Clinic Mondays and
Fridays 6-10
Maternity Clinic Wednesdays 6-10
May-August
- 5A. Wasco Labor Camp
Medical Clinic Tuesdays and
Thursdays 6-10
May-August
6. Kern County Health Department
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Community Aides
Year-round

7. California
Public
Lake County
Public Health
Community
Medical
May-October
8. Merced County
South Delta
Medical
Public Health
Environmental
Medical
Year-round
- 8A. Planada
Medical
Year-round
- 8B. Livingston
Medical
Year-round



The California Projects



7. California State Department of
Public Health
Lake County
Public Health Nursing
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
May-October

8. Merced County Health Department
South Dos Palos Night Clinic
Medical Clinic Tuesdays 6-10
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round

8A. Planada Night Clinic
Medical Clinic Tuesdays 6-10
Year-round

8B. Livingston Migrant Clinic
Medical Clinic Thursdays 6-10
Year-round

The California Projects—Continued

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|--|---|--|
| <p>9. California State Department of Public Health
Modoc and Siskiyou Counties
Public Health Nursing
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
May–October</p> | <p>Medical Fee-For-Service
April–December</p> <p>13. San Benito County Health Department
Hollister
Medical Clinic Wednesdays 6–8
Environmental Sanitation
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
June–October</p> | <p>Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> <p>17. Santa Barbara County Health Department
Santa Maria Migrant Project
Public Health Nursing
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> |
| <p>10. Monterey County Health Department
Gonzalez Migrant Clinic
Maternity Clinic Tuesdays 5:30–10
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Medical Fee-For-Service at Santa Cruz Clinic, Watsonville
Year-round</p> | <p>14. San Joaquin County Medical Society
Matthews Road Camp, Stockton
Medical Clinic weekdays 6:30–10
Medical Fee-For-Service
April–October</p> | <p>18. Santa Clara County Medical Society, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center and Santa Clara County Health Department
Wheeler Hospital, Gilroy
Outpatient Medical Services weekdays 6–10
Public Health Nursing
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> |
| <p>11. Riverside County Health Department
Indio Health Office
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> | <p>14A. Harney Lane Camp, Lodi
Medical Clinic weekdays 6:30–10
Medical Fee-For-Service
April–October</p> | <p>19. Santa Cruz County Health Department
Watsonville Area Service Center
Medical Clinic Mondays and Wednesdays 6–10
Immunization Clinic first Tuesdays 6–10
OB-GYN, Family Planning Clinic alternate Thursdays 6–10
Public Health Nursing
Aide Services
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> |
| <p>11A. Blythe Health Office
Pediatric Clinic Monthly 8–5
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Aide Services
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round</p> | <p>14B. Mobile Medical Clinic
Linden, Mondays 7–10
Year-round</p> | <p>20. Solano County Health Department
Dixon Camp
Medical Clinic Mondays and Thursdays 6:30–9
Public Health Nursing
Aide Services
May–October</p> |
| <p>12. Sacramento County Medical Society
Courtland
Medical Clinic Mondays 6–10
Medical Fee-for-Service
April–December</p> | <p>14C. Mobile Medical Clinic
St. Mary's Church, Stockton
Thursdays 2–5
June–December</p> | <p>21. Stanislaus County Medical Society
Empire Camp
Nursing Clinic weekdays 9–5
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
May–October</p> |
| <p>12A. Isleton
Medical Clinic Wednesdays 6–10
Medical Fee-for-Service
April–December</p> | <p>14D. Mobile Medical Clinic
Thornton, Wednesdays 7–10
Year-round</p> | <p>25A. Ma...
Ma...
Ma...</p> |
| <p>12B. Walnut Grove
Medical Clinic Tuesdays 6–10</p> | <p>14E. Mobile Medical Clinic
Tracy, Tuesdays 7–10
June–October</p> | <p>25B. Ci...
Ma...
Ma...</p> |
| | <p>15. San Joaquin Local Health District
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Aide Services
April–October</p> | <p>25C. Br...
Ma...
Ma...</p> |
| | <p>16. San Luis Obispo Health Department
Nipomo Night Clinic
Medical Clinic Mondays 6–10
Maternity Clinic Thursdays 1–5, alternate Fridays 9–12
Minor Surgery by appointment</p> | <p>26. Ya...
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The California Projects—Continued

Medical Fee-For-Service
April–December

San Benito County Health
Department

Hollister
Medical Clinic Wednesdays 6–8
Environmental Sanitation
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
June–October

San Joaquin County Medical
Society

Matthews Road Camp, Stockton
Medical Clinic weekdays 6:30–10
Medical Fee-For-Service
April–October

Harney Lane Camp, Lodi
Medical Clinic weekdays 6:30–10
Medical Fee-For-Service
April–October

Mobile Medical Clinic
Linden, Mondays 7–10
Year-round

Mobile Medical Clinic
St. Mary's Church, Stockton
Thursdays 2–5
June–December

Mobile Medical Clinic
Thornton, Wednesdays 7–10
Year-round

Mobile Medical Clinic
Tracy, Tuesdays 7–10
June–October

San Joaquin Local Health District
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Aide Services
April–October

San Luis Obispo Health Department
Nipomo Night Clinic
Medical Clinic Mondays 6–10
Maternity Clinic Thursdays 1–5,
alternate Fridays 9–12
Minor Surgery by appointment

Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round

17. Santa Barbara County Health
Department

Santa Maria Migrant Project
Public Health Nursing
Community Aides
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round

18. Santa Clara County Medical So-
ciety, Santa Clara Valley Medical
Center and Santa Clara
County Health Department
Wheeler Hospital, Gilroy
Outpatient Medical Services
weekdays 6–10
Public Health Nursing
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round

19. Santa Cruz County Health
Department
Watsonville Area Service Center
Medical Clinic Mondays and
Wednesdays 6–10
Immunization Clinic first Tuesdays
6–10
OB-GYN, Family Planning Clinic
alternate Thursdays 6–10
Public Health Nursing
Aide Services
Medical Fee-For-Service
Year-round

20. Solano County Health Department
Dixon Camp
Medical Clinic Mondays and
Thursdays 6:30–9
Public Health Nursing
Aide Services
May–October

21. Stanislaus County Medical Society
Empire Camp
Nursing Clinic weekdays 9–5
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
May–October

21A. Patterson Camp
Nursing Clinic weekdays 9–5
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
Year-round

21B. Westley Camp
Nursing Clinic weekdays 9–5
Medical and Dental Fee-For-Service
Year-round

22. Sutter Hospital
Yuba City
Medical Clinic weekdays 6–10 (ex-
cept Tuesdays and Thursdays
only December–April)
Medical Fee-For-Service
May–November

23. Sutter-Yuba Health Department
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Community Aides
Year-round

24. Ventura County Health Department
Environmental Sanitation
Community Aides
Year-round

25. School of Medicine, University of
California at Davis
Yolo General Hospital, Woodland
Medical and Family Planning Clinic
Thursday 6–10
Year-round

25A. Madison Camp
Medical Clinic Tuesdays 7–10
May–October

25B. Ciudad del Sol Camp, Davis
Medical Clinic Mondays 7–10
May–October

25C. Broderick
Medical Clinic Wednesdays 7–10
May–October

26. Yolo County Health Department
Public Health Nursing
Environmental Sanitation
Year-round

Footnotes

The source for all statistics quoted in this report is the Farm Workers Health Service, except the following:

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3. *Ibid.*, pp. 120-2.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 117.
5. Louisa R. Shotwell, *The Harvesters: The Story of the Migrant People* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1961), p. 104.
6. *Ibid.*
7. McWilliams, *op. cit.*, p. 119.
8. *Ibid.*, p. 124.
9. *Ibid.*, p. 130-1.
10. *Ibid.*, p. 129.
11. *Ibid.*, p. 296.
12. Henry P. Anderson, *The Bracero Program in California* (Berkeley: University of California School of Public Health, 1961), p. 178.
13. *Ibid.*, p. 179.
14. *Ibid.*, p. 180-1.
15. *Health Conditions and Services in California for Domestic Seasonal Agricultural Workers and Their Families*. Berkeley: California State Department of Public Health, 1961.
16. *Ibid.*
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18. *Rural California: Hope Amidst Poverty*. San Francisco: California Rural Legal Assistance, 1969.
19. *Regional Program for Migrant Education: A Report, 1967*. Sacramento: California State Department of Education.
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22. *California Agriculture, 1968 and 1964—California's Principal Crop and Livestock Commodities*. Sacramento: State of California, Department of Agriculture.
23. *Ibid.*
24. *Ibid.*
25. *The California Farm Labor Force: A Profile*. Sacramento: California Legislature Committee on Agriculture, April, 1969, p. 7.
26. *California Annual Farm Labor Report, 1969, op. cit.*
27. *The California Farm Labor Force: A Profile, op. cit.*, p. 28.
28. *Ibid.*, p. 37.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 6.
30. *Annual Operational Summary, Migrant Family Housing Centers*. State of California, Department of Human Resources Development, February, 1970.
31. *California Annual Farm Labor Report, 1969, op. cit.*
32. *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 22, 1970.
33. Philip Booth, *Sickness Insurance and California Farm Workers*, May, 1968, Vol. 31, No. 5, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
34. *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 6, 1970.
35. *Occupational Disease in California*. Berkeley: Bureau of Occupational Disease and Environmental Epidemiology, California State Department of Public Health, 1967.
36. *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 4, 1970.
37. *Annual Operational Summary, Migrant Family Housing Centers, op. cit.*
38. California Department of Housing and Community Development, November, 1968.
39. *The California Farm Labor Force: A Profile, op. cit.*, p. 31.
40. *Annual Operational Summary, Migrant Family Housing Centers, op. cit.*
41. Booth, *op. cit.*
42. *Research and Statistics Note*, June 18, 1970, No. 7. Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 20, 1970.



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